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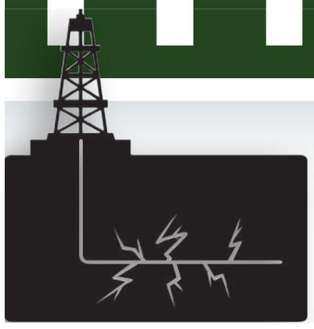

NOT ALL IT'S FRACKED UP TO BE

IN DAY 3 OF OUR 3-PART SERIES, METRO WRAPS UP WITH A LOOK AT MOOSE PITS, HAIR LOSS AND POLITICS

PAGES 16 & 17

Indigo battles Amazon in book biz war

Use Metro AR to see a gallery of bookstore success stories in Canada PAGE 18

Taking the fight to the lunchroom

Tim Hortons dukes it out to be a priority for Canadians during lunch hour PAGE 20

Violent-spouse rehab shortcut?

Anger mismanagement. Ontario's plan to reduce length of rehab program means high-risk clients will stay high-risk: Program manager

TREVOR GREENWAY
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The program co-ordinator for an Ottawa domestic violence rehab centre says the government's plan to slash its session length from 16 weeks to 12 weeks will force his organization to release offenders before they are ready.

Mark Holmes has worked at New Directions Ottawa since its inception in 1985 and argues Justice Ontario's "one-size-fits-all" approach to court-ordered rehab won't work for everyone.

"We work with clients with varying degrees of risk, some are lower risk and it may be an isolated incident, but others are individuals who are using violence in an ongoing way and our concern is that those are the men who really require a longer period of time in the program," Holmes told Metro.

"If we are talking about someone who has been violent or been abusive in multiple relationships, where there has been significant use of physical violence and other kinds of controlling behaviour, then 12 weeks just isn't long enough."

The program reduction is to deal with a higher demand of domestic assault offenders in the province, as a shorter program will create shorter waiting lists and allow more offenders to move through the system, according to Justice Ontario Spokesperson Brendan Crawley. He said the government is scaling back all Partner Assault Response (PAR) programs in the province, as court referrals have risen over 25 per cent since 2005.

Holmes says demand has gone down at New Directions, with the program seeing more than 600 clients a year in 2009 to the 500 it sees now.

FASTER THAN LRT ...

Mayor Jim Watson sits inside the DeLorean in front of Brothers Beer Bistro on Thursday to help launch the 2014 edition of Ottawa Comiccon. For more on the convention, see pages 6 and 7. JOE LOFARO/METRO

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Ottawa's new artistic hub ready to 'animate the city'

Festival House. Director of Bluesfest shows off new 10,000-square-foot music school and festival headquarters

TREVOR GREENWAY
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Ottawa is now home to a new music-and-art school that will offer more than 35 classes for youth and adults in everything from painting to DJing.

Ottawa Bluesfest executive director Mark Monahan wasted no time showing off his new digs Thursday, as media and prominent businesspeople gathered at the former Westboro United Church for the official opening of Festival House.

"It's exciting because it's the culmination of a dream and a concept we developed, and concepts don't always come to fruition, but this, I have to say, has turned out better than we thought," Monahan told Metro on Thursday, adding that it has been an 11-year dream to create an arts hub in Ottawa. "There is lots of opportunity here. We have a very vibrant group of people that can do lots to animate the city."

The space is a dazzling 10,000-square-foot building with cathedral ceilings and lots of natural rays spilling in through the church's original stained-glass windows. Upstairs features office space for Ottawa Bluesfest, Ottawa Festivals and other smaller festival companies in the city.

The basement is divided into several music rooms filled with guitars, pianos, computers and DJ equipment.

While the old church needed work, Monahan and crew didn't gut the place and certainly didn't get rid of any of its historic character.

"I think I am most proud of the fact that we could really keep the essence of the church — the stained-glass windows, the architecture — but improve the things that needed improving," he said.

Bluesfest executive director Mark Monahan, centre, cuts the ribbon of Festival House during its grand opening Thursday. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

Music classes including guitar, ukulele and blues harmonica, as well as art for seniors, have already begun and will continue year-round, with sessions costing $99.

Clement attacks Wynne's 'disastrous' record

Treasury Board president Tony Clement jumped into the Ontario election fray Thursday, calling for Premier Kathleen Wynne's defeat and a government run by his former provincial cabinet colleague Tim Hudak.

Goaded by Wynne's swipe at the federal Conservatives, Clement accused the Ontario Liberal leader of strategically attacking his government to deflect attention from the party's "disastrous record."

"Every day, Kathleen Wynne has gone out of her way to attack the federal government's policies, now attacking Stephen Harper personally," he said. "I have a right, as an Ontario citizen and taxpayer, to express my opinion."

Wynne launched another salvo toward the prime minister at a campaign stop in Ottawa, saying Harper is ignoring the needs of Canada's most populous province and casting Hudak — her Progressive Conservative rival — as a toady who won't stand up for Ontario.

During a breakfast speech near Parliament Hill, Wynne repeated her complaint that Ontario is being shortchanged, putting $11 billion more into federal coffers than it gets back. Harper's tone-deaf attitude is jeopardizing Ontario's fragile economic recovery, she said.

Wynne's jabs at Harper have become a common occurrence in the first week of the campaign, but date back to her rallying cry during a March 22 party convention where she called his antipathy toward pension reform "offensive and inexplicable."

Her government proposed a mandatory made-in-Ontario pension plan after the federal Tories spurned their advances to enhance the Canada Pension Plan, saying it would be harmful to increase contributions from workers and employers until the economy gathers steam. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soldier On: Injured Afghan vets show indomitable spirit in relay

National Day of Honour. It will be held on Parliament Hill Friday for the 1st time

JOE LOFARO
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Ret. Master Cpl. Paul Franklin lost both his legs to a suicide bombing in Afghanistan in 2006, but that didn't hold him back from pushing his wheelchair from Trenton to Ottawa in the Soldier On Afghanistan relay.

The relay is a leadup to the National Day of Honour, which will be held on Parliament Hill Friday for the first time. Franklin was among a team of 19 current and former military members who suffered an illness or injury while serving in Afghanistan

Leading the pack to Ottawa City Hall, RCMP Insp. Richard Haye carried a baton with a wrapped Canadian flag inside. But not just any flag — the one that flew at the International Security Assistance Force headquarters in Kabul.

Jan. 15, 2006, was the day Franklin was driving Glyn Berry, a Canadian diplomat, into Kabul in an armoured vehicle when it was hit by a suicide bomber's car, which was packed with 56 tonnes of explosives. The crash killed Berry and injured Franklin and his other passengers.

"The explosion was large enough to lift an armoured G Wagon in the air and up on its side," said Franklin after arriving at city hall. "Left leg gone, right leg destroyed. Burns and shrapnel wounds."

As a multi-city event, the Soldier On relay raises awareness of the sacrifices made by Canadians in Afghanistan, Franklin said. The Canadian mission ended just two months ago. Since 2002, 158 Canadian soldiers died while serving on the mission.

Ret. Master Cpl. Paul Franklin arrives on a wheelchair at city hall Thursday with the Soldier On Afghanistan Relay team. JOE LOFARO/METRO

High school students get fast and furious with cars built to zoom right out of 3-D printer

Lisgar Collegiate Institute calculus teacher Robert Tang, left, and Grade 12 students race cars propelled with CO2 down a track at Carleton University Wednesday. The students designed the cars using mathematical equations to create the most aerodynamic and quickest cars possible. The cars were then printed at Carleton University's 3-D printer. The students collected data on their test race and will modify the cars for the championship race in mid-June. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

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Topless counter-protest

Femen members crash anti-abortion rally in Ottawa

Two members of the Femen movement crashed an anti-abortion demonstration in Ottawa on Thursday just as Quebec City's archbishop was addressing the crowd.

The women removed their tops, baring anti-protest slogans on their breasts, stomach and back.

Neda Topalosky and Delphine Bergeron were surrounded by rally organizers on Parliament Hill before RCMP officers took over.

As the two chanted slogans saying women's bodies are their own, some protesters began praying while others criticized police for not doing anything.

"Officers, you are not doing anything," said Matthew Wojciechowski, a protest organizer and a member of the group Campaign Life.

Topalosky was told she was being arrested for causing a disturbance.

She and Bergeron were removed from the area in an RCMP vehicle before being released a few minutes later.

"We want free access to abortion and medical care for women who need it and want it," said Bergeron. "We don't want to go backwards."

Bob Zimmer, a Conservative MP from British Columbia, said the Femen members had the "freedom" to turn up at the annual event.

"But I just wish they would respect the rights of the demonstrators here today," he said. "In consideration of all the children in the crowd, I think that wasn't very considerate."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Video suggests OC Transpo habitually runs reds

Slater and Metcalfe. Anonymous poster says video shows 22 violations in five days

JOE LOFARO
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There were almost as many traffic violations at the intersection of Slater and Metcalfe in all of 2013 as there were alleged red-light violations by OC Transpo drivers captured in a video shot over five days at the same intersection.

A YouTube video posted May 1 by an anonymous person appears to show bus drivers run through a red light at the busy downtown intersection 22 times on five separate days over several months.

The voice-over on the video claims the footage was recorded on days both before and after the fatal OC Transpo and Via Rail crash in September.

Figures sent to Metro by Ottawa police show just as many violations (21) by all of the driving public at the same intersection in 2013. The figures cover all traffic-related offences, which are not limited to running red lights.

June was the month with the most (six) violations reported by police at the intersection. There have been eight so far in 2014, according to police.

The time frame of the footage is unclear and doesn't seem to show anyone being ticketed.

OC Transpo general manager John Manconi offered to meet the YouTube poster and said in a statement, "I absolutely reject the video's characterizations of our drivers, our organization and our Commission."

A person claiming to be the anonymous poster wrote an email to Metro on May 3, saying: "I don't believe there is anything else I could add to it other than what has been included in my public response to John Manconi, posted on my YouTube channel."

A screengrab of an anonymous video claiming to show bus drivers running red lights. SCREENGRAB

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On-the-job injuries

One construction worker buried, another punctured

A day after a construction worker's hand was crushed on a work site, two more construction workers suffered on-the-job injuries in Ottawa.

Paramedics responded to a call at a construction site in the 3,000 block of Southgate Road at 12:20 p.m. Thursday. They treated a 48-year-old man for multiple fractures to one leg after he was partially buried when the surrounding soil collapsed around him.

The man was freed by co-workers before paramedics arrived. He was conscious and in serious but stable condition when he was taken to hospital.

Later Thursday, paramedics reported a roofer in his 20s accidentally shot himself in the foot with a pneumatic nail gun at a job site on Clyde Avenue just after 3 p.m. METRO

Norman Street

Shots fired early Thursday morning

The Ottawa Police Service Guns and Gangs Unit is investigating a shooting in which seven gunshots were fired in the 0-100 block of Norman Street at approximately 1:00 a.m. Thursday. No injuries were reported.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to call police or Crime Stoppers. METRO

No injuries

Mother, daughter flee house fire

A mother and daughter were forced to escape their home due to a fire Thursday morning.

Ottawa Fire Services said they were called to the 1600 block of Aspen Village Circle at 11:38 a.m. A woman and her daughter were home at the time and were alerted by the smoke alarm that a fire had started in the basement of their two-storey townhouse. Both exited the home unharmed and called 911.

Firefighters quickly extinguished the fire, containing it to the laundry/utility room. It was brought under control by 11:58 a.m.

There was heavy smoke damage throughout the home and minor smoke damage to two adjacent units. Total damages to the unit of origin have been estimated at about $100,000.

There were no injuries, and the cause is still under investigation. METRO

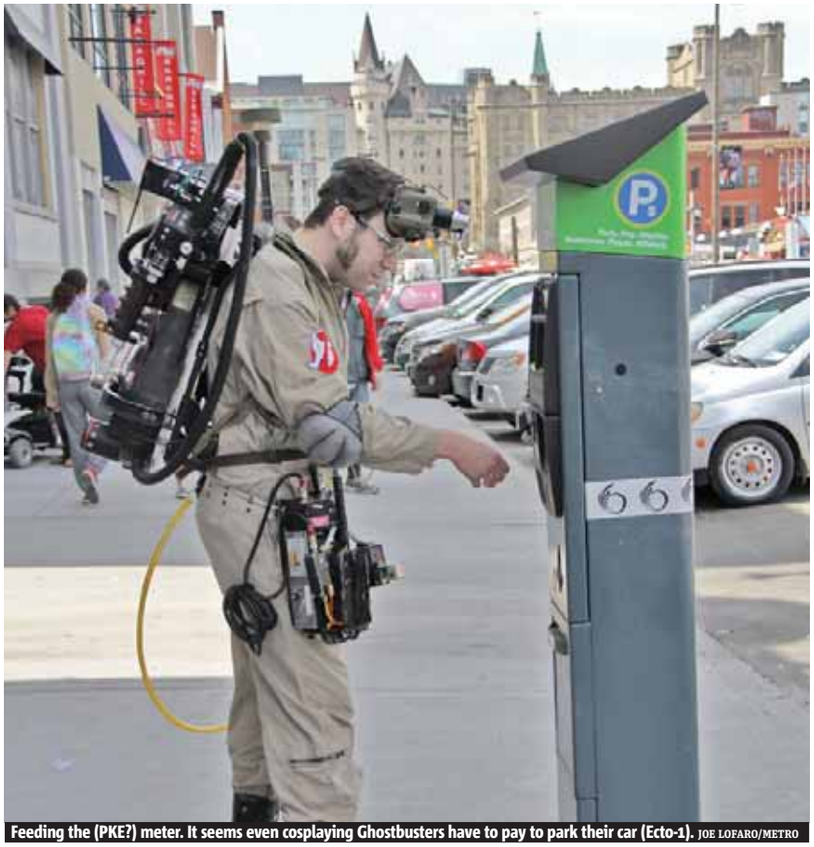
Sidewalk repair

Lane to close on Heron Rd. Bridge

The westbound bus lane on the Heron Road Bridge will be closed during off-peak hours starting Monday and lasting for approximately three days while sidewalk repair work is performed.

Lane reductions may occur between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. during the day and between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. overnight. METRO

Geek horde assembling for Comiccon



Feeding the (PKE?) meter. It seems even cosplaying Ghostbusters have to pay to park their car (Ecto-1). JOE LOFARO/METRO

Friday to Sunday. Convention expected to attract more than 40,000 people

JOE LOFARO
joe.lofaro@metronews.ca

The Daleks, Delorean and Ecto-1 took over the Byward Market Thursday to hype the launch of Ottawa Comiccon, which begins Friday at the Ernst and Young Centre.

Mayor Jim Watson and Degrassi actor Pat Mastroianni were at Brothers Beer Bistro to pose for photos and talk about this year's event. Watson, sitting in the driver's seat of the famous time-travelling car from Back to the Future, quipped that "it's faster than light rail."

Mastroianni, 42, started going to conventions in Ontario last year. He says it gives him a chance to personally connect with fans who grew up watching his antics as Joey Jeremiah on the popular coming-of-age TV series.

"A lot of them come up to me with their kids who are now watching (Degrassi) Next Generation, which is blowing my mind because they turn to their kids and say, 'Look, when I was your age I was watching that guy grow up on Degrassi,'" said Mastroianni. "It's a celebration of pop culture. And to be able to take a moment to celebrate Degrassi as Canadian identity."

He will be doing a Q & A with fans on Saturday as well as giving photo-ops and autographs Friday through Sunday.

"I have Zit Remedy T-shirts that I had made up for fans that remember that band from the show," he said. "I'm also going to be looking for comic books. I'm a big collector myself. I'm a bit of a comic book nerd."

Other featured guests slated to do Q & A sessions include The Goonies actor Sean Astin, Evil Dead's Bruce Campbell, and Christopher Lloyd, who played "Doc" in Back to the Future. Leonard Nimoy will also answer questions via Skype on Saturday.

Organizers say more than 32,000 people visited Ottawa Comiccon last year and are hoping to attract more than 40,000 visitors.

Preaching to the choir

"I'm a big collector myself. I'm a bit of a comic book nerd."
Degrassi actor Pat Mastroianni

What's in store

Comiccon runs May 9 to 11. Some of the celebs coming to the convention include:

- **Amanda Tapping - Stargate SG-1**
- **Amanda Wyss - A Nightmare on Elm Street**
- **Bruce Campbell - Evil Dead**
- **Sean Aston - The Lord of the Rings**
- **Ray Park - Darth Maul**
- **Christopher Lloyd- Back to the Future**
- **Edward James Olmos - Battlestar Galactica**
- **Giancarlo Esposito - Breaking Bad**
- **Summer Glau - Firefly/Serenity**
- Tickets are available at ottawacomiccon.com, but some packages are sold out.

Flanked by Star Wars characters, Degrassi actor Pat Mastroianni talks up Comiccon fans at Brothers Beer Bistro. JOE LOFARO/METRO

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Actor set to embrace 'lovefest'

Comicon. Battlestar Galactica star and humanist activist Edward James Olmos wants to say thank you to Canadian fans

When actor Edward James Olmos comes to Ottawa this weekend for the Comicon, he'll be giving and receiving thanks.

"The main thing that happens at those shows is the great amount of thank you's," he says.

Fans say thank you and want to chat about favourite movies, but stars like him are also saying thank you back.

"We're saying thank you to them for being fans and supporting us. It's a lovefest. It's fantastic," says the star of such sci-fi vehicles as Blade Runner and Battlestar Galactica.

Now often recognized for his humanist activism as much as his acting, Olmos says he greatly admires Canada and Canadians.

"I really appreciate the laid-back-ness, the ability to live longer than anyone else in the world. They know something about life," he says.

Battlestar Galactica, in which Olmos played the military leader of a group of star-faring refugees fleeing an unwinnable war with sentient machines, was shot in Canada. While Olmos says he'd like to import Canadian health care and other aspects of the country into the U.S., it's also clear that like Canadians he also knows a thing or two about life.

He's passionate when he speaks about his movie Stand and Deliver, a true story about a teacher who starts educating inner-city youth on calculus. It's a film used to this day to inspire teachers and students to strive academically.

"Children will rise to the expectations they are given," he says.

But if his most iconic role as a teacher is social commentary, so too is his role as the war-weary Battlestar Cmdr. William Adama. Many of the themes in the show such as suicide bombing, waterboarding, war and reconciliation resonate and will continue to do so because humans can't seem to escape the "mentality of power," he says.

Technological progress is only making the show move away from allegory and closer to reality, he says.

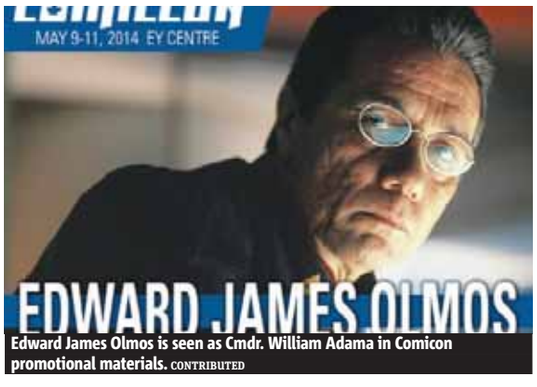
"We're close. An artificial-intelligence company was purchased by Google, and as part of the deal they made them sign a morality contract," Olmos says, referencing the tech giant's $500-million purchase of London-based Deep Mind, which included an agreement to set up an ethics board to ensure the company's technology isn't abused.

Olmos says the day is fast approaching when machines will be forced to make the same sort of ethical choices as humans. For instance, a robotic car may have to decide whether to protect its passengers or people in other vehicles, he says.

In Battlestar Galactica, it isn't clear which set of life forms is better at making those decisions — humans or machines.

"Artificial intelligence is here and it's going to dominate," he says. "And then we have to deal with the morality, but whose morality are we using to work the machines and that's the issue."

SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO



Edward James Olmos is seen as Cmdr. William Adama in Comicon promotional materials. CONTRIBUTED

Disability support

Former MLB pitcher hopes to help make a miracle for kids

Organizers of the Miracle League of Ottawa will update the community on the growing support for the construction of a baseball field and playground designed for children with disabilities.

The group will provide a fundraising update with plans and news of support from across the region and will also host a speech from former Major League Baseball pitcher Mike Kusiewicz.

Saturday's family-friendly event at Notre Dame des Champs Park, on Navan Road in Orleans, will also feature refreshments, face painting, clowns and pictures with Homer, the charity's mascot.

For more information go to miracleleagueofottawa.ca. METRO

Chemistry

Carleton University working some magic this weekend

Carleton University's chemistry department is hosting its third annual outdoor chemistry magic show Saturday.

The free one-hour show features fun targeted at the whole family, including children aged six and up, with explosions, a look at the inner workings of fireworks, spontaneous combustions and things that glow in the dark.

The show starts at 8:45 p.m. but there will be activities beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The show happens at the amphitheatre between Southam and Paterson Halls at Carleton University. In case of inclement weather, the show will happen inside at the university's Theatre B, Southam Hall. METRO

Skilled trades. Hudak: Plan for 1M jobs starts with apprenticeships

Ontario Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak took the first step Thursday to reveal how he plans to create one million jobs over eight years, saying he'd start with getting more young people into apprenticeships for the skilled trades.

Allowing more apprentices on work sites so young people can get good-paying jobs as plumbers, welders or electricians and help address a labour shortage in the skilled trades makes good sense, he said.

"Allow each journeyman to mentor and train an apprentice, one each, and that'll help create 200,000 positions," Hudak said.

"Why would you restrict young people from getting good jobs in the trades," asked Hudak. "It won't cost you a penny. One simple cabinet meeting, one stroke of the pen, and it's done."

Limiting the number of apprentices hurts young people, but benefits entrenched unions that support the Liberals by funding campaign advertising attacking the Tories under the banner of the Working Families Coalition, said Hudak.

"Special interests like the Working Families Coalition want to artificially limit the number of people that get into skilled trades because it increases their bargaining power," he said. "I get that. I think it's wrong." THE CANADIAN PRESS

College of Trades

A Conservative government would make trades training a community college course and would abolish the College of Trades, which Hudak said amounts to little more than "a tax grab."

- The Tories have always opposed the College of Trades, which was created a year ago, because workers are required to pay $120 plus tax every year to be licensed, up from the old fee of $20 a year.

NDP. Horwath touts tax credit plan for new jobs

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath says only her party can be trusted to create new jobs in Ontario.

She visited a Niagara Falls auto parts plant Thursday morning to tout a tax credit that would compensate employers for bringing on new staff — a goal she says the Liberals and Tories can't be trusted to do.

The $500-million, two-year plan would pay 10 per cent of a new employee's first-year pay, to a maximum of $5,000 per worker and $100,000 per company.

Horwath says the plan would create up to 170,000 "good-paying jobs" and that her party would make sure the cash doesn't go to low-skilled positions or companies that end employment after the year is up.

She says funding for the program would come from finding efficiencies in a government spending review, but couldn't offer further details. The NDP has also pitched the idea during the 2011 provincial election campaign. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario NDP Leader Andrea Horwath answers questions at the Covent Garden Market as she campaigns in London, Ont. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A tradition

Ridin' on the campaign trail

Liberal Premier Kathleen Wynne's bus has been dubbed "Wynnebago," while the handful of reporters on Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak's media bus opted for "Dodge Caravan," because of the way he responds to questions.

Hudak happened to be riding with the reporters when they agreed on "Dodge Caravan" and, after a loud groan, he offered to take two more questions each day. However, he did admit the answers would still be "one million jobs."

The media with NDP Leader Andrea Horwath have apparently named the bus "Easy Rider."

In 2011, the NDP plane was named "Starvair," because on one day early in the campaign, the New Democrats took reporters on a marathon tour of the north with no food or coffee. The Liberal plane was named "Debt From Above," for obvious reasons. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Only for a snap election

Blackout in effect for political ads

Ontario voters may have gotten a taste of political ads in the first few days of the election campaign, but they won't be running on TV, radio or in print for the next two weeks.

Chief Electoral Officer Greg Essensa says a blackout on political advertising came into effect Wednesday after Lt. Gov. David Onley signed the writs for the June 12 election.

It remains in effect until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20.

Essensa says a blackout at the beginning of a campaign is only imposed if there's a snap election call and is aimed at preventing the governing party from gaining an edge by having political advertising ready to go as soon as the vote is announced.

A second blackout period begins at midnight on Tuesday, June 10 and ends at 11:59 p.m. on election day. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tim's says Doug, not mayor, spotted at Toronto location

Rob in rehab? Coffee chain 'confirmed' Doug Ford was at restaurant on Tuesday, but refuses to release images

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, right, stands alongside his brother councillor Doug Ford during a Toronto City Council meeting at city hall last November in Toronto. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Tim Hortons has "confirmed" it was Doug Ford — not the mayor — who visited a franchise location in the Junction on Tuesday morning, a spokesperson told the Star.

Michelle Robichaud, manager of public relations for the coffee chain, said employees at the west-end Tim Hortons reviewed video from security cameras and concluded it was Coun. Ford who attended the restaurant.

Mayor Rob Ford is purportedly in rehab.

Tim Hortons is refusing to release images from its cameras to prove Rob Ford wasn't there.

"It is, for sure, Doug," said Robichaud. "That's all I want to say right now — that it was reviewed internally and we can confirm it's Doug."

Rob Ford announced he was going to rehab last week to deal with an "alcohol problem," and has reportedly made calls to a Toronto Sun columnist from a treatment facility.

Sixteen-year-old Cayla Clarkson, however, claims she saw the mayor outside the Tim Hortons near Dundas Street West and Clendenan Avenue Tuesday around 9 a.m. A Tim Hortons employee who would not share her name also told the Star the mayor came into the restaurant that morning and ordered coffee and a sandwich.

On Wednesday, Doug Ford told reporters "that was me," explaining he stopped at the Tim Hortons on his way to work at City Hall.

Clarkson could not be immediately reached for comment Thursday.

In an earlier interview, though, she stuck to her story, claiming she is "97 per cent sure" it was Rob Ford who went into the restaurant and then came back out and got into his vehicle.

"I was standing behind his car, and I had my phone out because I was going to take a picture of him, but then he looked at me and then I kind of put my phone away, because he didn't really seem to be the happiest person," she said.

'97 per cent sure' it was Rob

> **"I was standing behind his car, and I had my phone out because I was going to take a picture of him, but then he looked at me and then I kind of put my phone away, because he didn't really seem to be the happiest person."**
>
> **Bystander Cayla Clarkson,** who is "97 per cent sure" she saw Mayor Rob Ford go into the restaurant, come back out and get into his vehicle

In the days since the mayor took a leave of absence and said he is going to rehab, there have been several claimed Ford sightings in disparate locations, including Hamilton, Richmond Hill and the Homewood Health Centre in Guelph.

Speaking to reporters Thursday, Doug Ford said his brother is "nowhere near the GTA." His exact location has not been disclosed.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'People tried to stop it.' Woman killed by bear at oilsands site wasn't alone

A union official says a woman killed by a bear at one of Canada's major oilsands sites was with several workers who tried to scare the animal away.

The 36-year-old Suncor employee was an instrument technician, who was doing electrical work at a job site near Fort McMurray, Alta., when the bear attacked her Wednesday.

"It was ... seven people that were working in a group area and she was attacked by this bear out of that group and dragged off," Scott Doherty, a spokesman for Unifor, told The Canadian Press.

"People tried to stop it and do everything they could. Obviously they are fairly horrified at what they saw and witnessed." Doherty said the union does not believe the workers were carrying bear spray. He said they remained in the area until police and wildlife officers arrived.

Another union official said the woman's co-workers blasted air horns to scare the bear away, but to no effect.

A black bear in Jasper National Park, Alta., on Wednesday. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

RCMP killed an adult black bear in the area and tests were being done to determine whether it is the same animal that mauled the woman.

Alberta occupational health and safety said companies that operate in the region have protocols to try to prevent such attacks. Doherty said there needs to be a full review of what happened.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Endangered species. Whale carcass makes its way to Toronto museum

Researchers began carving up the decaying remains of a rare blue whale on Thursday as they prepare to ship the animal's skeleton from Newfoundland to a museum in Toronto.

The team started stripping blubber off the adult female that died with eight other blue whales in unusually thick ice off the province's west coast.

There are only about 250 blue whales left in the North Atlantic population, which has not recovered much since whaling stopped and they came under protection in the 1960s.

But Mark Engstrom, deputy director for collections and research at the Royal Ontario Museum, says that while the deaths are a setback for the fragile species, being able to recover the remains could provide valuable knowledge of the animal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Prison battles ruling on sex change for convict

Taxpayer-funded surgery ordered.
Michelle Kosilek, formerly Robert, convicted of murdering wife in 1990

Michelle Kosilek, who lives as a woman, wants a sex change.
LISA BUL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Robert Kosilek, as Michelle was then known, is seen in 1990. NEW
ROCHELLE POLICE|THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Massachusetts prison officials on Thursday made another push to overturn a court ruling that would force them to provide a taxpayer-funded sex-change operation to a murder convict with gender-identity disorder.

The inmate has been given a substantial amount of care, including female hormones, laser hair removal and psychotherapy, and doesn't need the surgery, the Department of Corrections attorney Richard McFarland told the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston.

"The clinician didn't say you must have this surgery, but that if you want it, you can get it," McFarland said Thursday. Only five per cent of people diagnosed with the disorder actually undergo sex-assignment surgery, he added.

Michelle Kosilek, born Robert Kosilek, has been in a heated legal battle to get the surgery, which she says is required to relieve the emotional stress caused by the disorder. Kosilek is currently serving a life sentence for killing spouse Cheryl Kosilek in 1990.

In 2012, a federal judge ruled that the department must give Kosilek the surgery.

In January, that decision was reaffirmed by a three-judge panel of the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which said it is a constitutional right to receive medically necessary treatment "even if that treatment strikes some as odd or unorthodox."

The prisons department appealed and won a rehearing before the full appeals court. It could take months to issue a decision.

If it loses its appeals, Massachusetts would be the first state to fund sex-reassignment surgery for an inmate.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Hate' in the classroom.
School board denounces Holocaust assignment

The school board of a Southern California district where students were told to write an essay on whether they believe the Holocaust really happened said at a packed public meeting Wednesday night that it was a "horribly inappropriate" assignment for which the board takes "full responsibility."

Rialto Unified School Board president Joanne Gilbert read the remarks after a closed session that followed a heated public meeting where Jewish groups, tolerance organizations and community leaders denounced the assignment.

The initial assignment given to eighth-graders was to do some research and write an essay explaining whether they believed the Holocaust was a real historical event or a political scheme to influence public emotion and gain. It was developed in December by a group of language arts teachers planning a unit on *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

Quoted

"I don't understand why a fact of history would be a matter for debate."
Rabbi Suzanne Singer
Temple Beth El in Riverside, Calif.

The district had already withdrawn the assignment and called it an error.

But the school board went much further in its denunciation Wednesday night, and promised broader action to prevent similar incidents, including sensitivity training for eighth-graders at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

State Senator Norma Torres, who represents the area and was one of several political officials in attendance, urged the board to make a strong statement.

"Hate has no place in Rialto," Torres said. "Hate has no place in our classrooms."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Botched execution nets inmate six-month stay

A court in the U.S. on Thursday agreed to a six-month delay of execution for a death row inmate while an investigation is conducted into last week's botched lethal injection.

The Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals reset the execution date of inmate Charles Warner to Nov. 13 while an investigation is conducted into last week's incident.

Attorney General Scott Pruitt and Gov. Mary Fallin have said the state will not carry out any executions until the investigation is complete.

Warner was scheduled for execution on the same night as Clayton Lockett in what would have been the state's first double execution since 1937. But Lockett's vein collapsed during his lethal injection.

It was the first time the state had ever used the sedative midazolam as the first in a three-drug lethal injection protocol.

Lockett writhed on the gurney, gritted his teeth, lifted his head several times and moaned. The curtains that allow witnesses to view the execution were closed about 16 minutes into the lethal injection. The director of the state's prison system, Robert Patton, then called off the execution, but Lockett died of an apparent heart attack, 43 minutes after the start of his execution.

Patton has released a report saying the state didn't have another dose of the drugs available.

Warner was convicted of raping and killing his roommate's 11-month-old daughter in 1997. He has maintained his innocence.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Rock snot'

Don't panic— it's just algae

It's earned the nickname "rock snot," and it's clogging river bottoms from coast to coast. But new research says the unsightly slime is caused by a native species of algae, Didymosphenia geminata, responding to low levels of nutrients in the water,
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Older and wiser

75 years later, he's a graduate

Walter Ross, 90, was to celebrate his high school graduation Thursday evening — right after his grandson. The Edmonton man, who left high school at 15, was recently credited by the province with the French course he never passed.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

A growing concern

Lawsuits on pot flood court

More than 200 people have flooded the Federal Court in Vancouver with lawsuits demanding the right to grow medical marijuana. A judge has put most of the cases on hold until a decision next year on Ottawa's recent changes to pot production.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Potential fallout

N. Korea threatens new nuclear test

North Korea is making final preparations to conduct its fourth nuclear test, South Korea's defence minister said Thursday, but he added that it could be a bluff.

Defence Minister Kim Kwan-jin told South Korean journalists that North Korea is able to detonate a nuclear device at any moment, though he didn't elaborate on what the final step of its preparations would be, according to ministry officials.

Kim also said that although North Korea is ready to conduct a nuclear test, it may not intend to set off the device soon, and instead is trying to trick outside observers into believing a test is imminent, the officials said, requesting anonymity under department rules.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Asian politics

Thai PM faces impeachment

Thailand's anti-graft commission indicted ousted Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on Thursday on charges of dereliction of duty in overseeing a widely criticized rice subsidy program, a day after a court forced her from office.

Yingluck was accused of allowing the rice program, a flagship policy of her administration, to proceed despite advice that it was potentially wasteful and prone to corruption.

The ruling means Yingluck will face an impeachment vote by the senate. If found guilty by a three-fifths vote, she would be barred from politics for five years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Military equality

U.K. army women to serve front line?

Britain's defence minister says women should be allowed to serve in front-line army combat units.

Defence Secretary Philip Hammond said Thursday the army should be open "to all who can meet the standards required."

In Britain women can serve in most military posts, from fighter pilots to submariners, but not in units whose primary role is close-quarters combat.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hackers accused of targeting T.O. police computers

Cyberattack. Toronto police database stored sensitive info on 220,000 service members, including social security numbers and birthdates

A former U.S. navy nuclear systems administrator has been charged with trying to break into the Toronto Police Service computer system.

There was no immediate word on Thursday on whether Nicholas Knight, 27 of Virginia, had any success in his online attack, as part of a hacking group called "Team Digi7al."

Knight worked on an aircraft carrier in the nuclear reactor department.

Also charged was Illinois community college student Daniel Krueger, who studied network administration.

The men also tried to hack into the computers of more than 30 other organizations, including the U.S. Navy, the U.S. National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Los Alamos National Laboratory and the World Health Organization, according to a statement issued this week from the U.S. Attorney's office for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

The Toronto Police Service and UBC were the only Canadian targets.

Knight and Krueger have each been charged with conspiring to steal identities, obstruct justice and damage a protected computer.

The scheme was detected in June 2012 by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, when it was alerted that someone had breached the Navy's database, according to the Northern District of Oklahoma's Attorney's Office. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Middle East virus kills four more

Egyptian Muslim pilgrims pray in Mina near the Muslim holy city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Four more people have died in Saudi Arabia after contracting an often fatal Middle East respiratory virus as the number of newly confirmed infections in the kingdom climbs higher, according to health officials. AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Expert testifies at murder trial

Oscar Pistorius is seated in court on Tuesday. MIKE HUTCHINGS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A ballistics expert called Thursday to testify by Oscar Pistorius's defence offered a different explanation to prosecutors for one of the wounds sustained by Reeva Steenkamp when she was shot and killed by the world-famous athlete last year.

Wollie Wolmarans testified his reconstructions of the Feb. 14, 2013 shooting showed that the pattern of wood splinter marks around a gunshot wound on Steenkamp's right arm indicated that the arm was between six and 20 centimetres from a wood toilet door when it was hit by one of four hollow point bullets fired through the door by Pistorius.

Wolmarans' opinion was being used by the defence to show that Steenkamp may have been reaching out with her arm to open the cubicle door when she was hit. That assertion is in contrast to prosecutors' claims that the model was hiding in fear of an angry Pistorius during a heated nighttime argument.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Military was warned ahead of deadly Boko Haram attack: Locals

At least 50 killed.
Villagers criticize failure of security forces

South Africans protest against the abduction three weeks ago of hundreds of schoolgirls in Nigeria by Islamic extremist group Boko Haram and what protesters said was the failure of the Nigerian government to rescue them, during a march to the Nigerian Consulate in Johannesburg, South Africa, Thursday. BEN CURTIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Residents of a Nigerian town attacked by Boko Haram criticized security forces for failing to protect them despite warnings that the Islamic militants were nearby. At least 50 bodies have been recovered, many horribly burned, in the town.

The attack on Gamboru, in remote northeastern Nigeria near the border with Cameroon, is part of the Islamic militants' campaign of terror that included the kidnapping of teenaged girls from a school, 276 of whom remain missing and believed held by Boko Haram.

The death toll from the Monday afternoon attack in Gamboru was initially reported by a senator to be as many as 300, but a security official said it is more likely to be around 100. Some Gamboru residents said bodies were recovered from the debris of burned shops around the town's main market, which was the focus of the attack.

The bodies were found after the market reopened on Wednesday as health workers, volunteers and traders searched for missing people, said Gamboru resident Abuwar Masta.

Masta and other traders said that some villagers had warned the security forces of an impending attack after insurgents were seen camping in the bush near Gamboru.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Missing girls

Equipment deal still in the works

Canada and Nigeria are still negotiating whether the African country will be getting Canadian military surveillance equipment to help in its search for nearly 300 kidnapped teenage girls.

The Harper government has offered to provide surveillance equipment, plus the military personnel to operate it, in an effort to help find the hundreds of teenaged girls abducted by the Boko Haram Islamic militant group last month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Owner of S. Korean ferry detained

A woman weeps at a tribute to ferry victims in Seoul.
AHN YOUNG-JOON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Korean prosecutors on Thursday detained the head of the company that owns the ferry that sank last month over an allegation of cargo overloading.

Authorities believe improper stowage and overloading of cargo are one possible reason the ferry sank on April 16, leaving more than 300 people dead or missing. Four employees at the ferry's owner Chonghaejin Marine Co. Ltd, who handled cargo on the Sewol, have already been arrested.

Kim Han-sik, president of Chonghaejin, was detained Thursday ahead of his possible formal arrest on allegations that he was aware that the ferry exceeded its cargo limit, but didn't do anything before it started its trip, according to senior prosecutor Yang Jung-jin.

"I feel very sorry for the victims ... their family members. I committed a grave sin," Kim, wearing a cap and a mask, told reporters at a detention facility in the southern port city of Mokpo, according to South Korean TV footage. He declined to comment on questions over alleged cargo overloading.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A protester in a Guy Fawkes mask stands surrounded by a cloud of tear gas during studen

Chileans education

Students on the street. Tens of thousands demonstrate, demand changes promised by president's campaign

Tens of thousands of students protested in Chile on Thursday in the first march demanding education reform since President Michelle Bachelet took power on promises of deep changes.

The students marched through the streets of downtown Santiago heading to La Moneda presidential palace in a mostly peaceful protest that was marred at the end by hooded vandals who infiltrated the demonstrations to clash with police throwing rocks and petrol bombs. About 1,800 police officers guarded the march to avoid more violence. Student leaders estimated the crowd at 100,000 but police said it was closer to 40,000 people.

Bachelet was inaugurated for a new presidential term two months ago. She has vowed an education overhaul funded by a corporate tax hike in response to the millions of people who have taken part in protests since 2011 demanding deep changes to a system suffering from poor quality public schools, unprepared teachers and expensive private universities.

Students say the government is finally on the right course after years of staging massive marches demanding free, quality education. But they say it's still not enough and they want to be part of the reform.

"I think these projects are aimed in the right direction, but it's unfortunate that there is no process of participation and debate," said Naschla Aburman, a student leader at Universidad Catolica.

Quoted

"I think these projects are aimed in the right direction, but it's unfortunate that there is no process of participation and debate."

Naschla Aburman, student leader at Universidad Catolica

t protests in Santiago, Chile, Thursday. LUIS HIDALGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

march for reforms

A Chilean riot police officer trips and falls down, as he and his fellow officers run away from flames from a petrol bomb thrown by protesters in violent clashes during a student march in Santiago on Thursday. LUIS HIDALGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The student protests began under the 2006-10 presidency of Bachelet, who appeased some students by naming a commission including several of their leaders, and shuffling her cabinet. But many others were left disappointed.

"What we've done so far is injecting more money to this same system that segregates," said Melissa Sepulveda, a student leader at Universidad de Chile. "This system generates one type of education for the rich, and another for the poor."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Back in office

Chilean President Michelle Bachelet was sworn back into office two months ago after a four-year break.

- Bachelet is a moderate socialist who became Chile's first female president in 2006.
- The Chilean Constitution does not allow a president to serve two consecutive terms.

Syria

Rebels blow up historic hotel

With a gigantic explosion, Syrian rebels on Thursday levelled a historic hotel being used as an army base in the northern city of Aleppo by detonating bomb-packed tunnels beneath it, activists and militants said.

The blast near Aleppo's medieval citadel, an imposing city landmark that was once swarming with tourists, killed an unknown number of soldiers. It turned the Carlton Hotel, known for its elegant architecture and proximity to the citadel, into a pile of rubble.

The attack was a powerful statement that the rebels could still deal heavy blows elsewhere in Syria even as they withdrew from Homs, surrendering that city to President Bashar Assad's forces.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suspected militants killed

Yemeni forces clear al-Qaida fighters from south

Yemeni armed forces on Thursday swept al-Qaida fighters out of a district in the country's south, one of the main goals of the major offensive waged by the military the past two weeks, the Defence Ministry said, amid fears of retaliatory attacks which officials say prompted the closure of the U.S. embassy as a precaution.

The ministry said that dozens of suspected militants have been killed and captured in the past week as troops and allied tribal fighters seized a string of al-Qaida-held areas. In the operation in Mahfad, Yemeni forces were reportedly backed by U.S. drone strikes targeting an al-Qaida base hidden in the remote mountains. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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See that symbol? Use your Metro News app to watch the Hawkwoods discuss their health concerns in their own words.

Is the real cost of fracking

Metro wraps up its look at the controversial practice.
Alberta couple blames nearby operations for hair loss, nosebleeds

CAM TUCKER
Metro in Vancouver

Nielle Hawkwood began noticing that her hair was falling out about four years ago. She also began experiencing skin irritation — as did her husband, Howard — as well as nosebleeds.

Two years ago, she was diagnosed with alopecia, which causes significant hair loss.

"The dermatologist said something has affected my immune system," said Nielle, during a visit in April to the couple's 456-hectare cattle ranch nestled amongst the rolling brown hills north of Calgary. They have been there for 34 years and it's been in Howard's family since 1972.

Both Nielle and Howard believe their recent health problems are the result of an increase in fracking wells being drilled in the area — 110 in the past four years and another 39 projected for this year. The closest is four kilometres from their ranch.

They assert that the hair loss, skin irritation and nosebleeds did not exist before the rise of fracking in the area.

For its part, Lochend Industry Producers Group (LIPG), which consists of four different oil and gas companies active in the area, says there has been no water contamination and that the risk of water or air contamination to people living within 10 kilometres from a fracking well is "exceedingly" small.

The companies set surface casings — a concrete and steel barrier that line the well to prevent fracking fluid from entering the ground water — to 600 metres, double the required regulatory depths in the Lochend area.

As well, the group says, the productive fracking zone is approximately 2,200 metres below the ground, far below a typical water well that sits at around 45 metres deep.

But the health issues raised by the Hawkwoods could prove a cautionary tale for residents and industry in Northeast B.C., where a massive expansion of shale gas fracking is underway.

"I think those are fair and legitimate questions that the public are asking," said Geoff Morrison, the manager of B.C. operations for the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, about health and environmental concerns.

"We're trying to do an improved job of reassuring the public about our practices so they can come to reasonable conclusions about safety.

"Social licences have two components: One is doing the right thing and being regulated in the proper way, and the other is communications. For us, in B.C. … we've been well-regulated and are doing the right thing."

A recent study by the Council of Canadian Academies found human health and well-being may be affected by the various environmental effects resulting from shale gas development.

"Health impacts are not well understood and additional research is required," the report concluded.

Metro requested an interview with Alberta's Ministry of Health about any health complaints near the Hawkwoods' ranch and related to fracking, but a spokesperson was not made available.

The Hawkwoods, however, aren't only worried about their own health.

Last spring and summer, the Hawkwoods say 18 of their cows died, while seven others appeared thin and unhealthy, and did not calve.

A necropsy of one female bovine conducted last April — the document of the testing was viewed by two Metro reporters — noted the cause of death was undetermined, but the Hawkwoods believe water contamination was the cause and fracking the culprit.

The sudden deaths of some of the Hawkwood's cows not only has a financial impact — each cow is worth about $1,800 — but also to the reputation of his ranch.

LIPG points out that it receives very few concerns and most of those are focused on increased traffic, dust and noise associated with increased activity. They say member companies take complaints very seriously and the majority of concerns are answered to the complainant's satisfaction.

"There has been a very small group of residents who individually and collectively have expressed their opposition to resource development and we continue to work with them to address their concerns," said LIPG in an email.

However, with their growing concern over health and environmental effects, the Hawkwoods have contemplated moving away from their ranch, which has been in their family for five decades.

"I'm a little bit upset about it. So where do I go? I love living in the area."

Howard and Nielle Hawkwood MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Howard Hawkwood has experienced skin irritation, which he believes was caused by health impacts of fracking. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Call for a moratorium

The Hawkwoods are among a group of Alberta residents who have issued an open letter to Premier Dave Hancock demanding a moratorium on horizontal fracking, similar to bans in place in Quebec, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Pits of dead moose and loss of wildlife habitat

A pit, one of many along the Alaska Highway, contains the carcass of a moose. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

If you pull over on northeastern B.C.'s Alaska Highway and drive a few hundred metres into the bush, you'll smell it first. Then you'll see flies buzzing over a deep pit. It is filled with decomposing moose carcasses.

These pits dot the highway, said Carl Gitscheff of the B.C. Wildlife Federation — the final resting places of the large animals killed by the high traffic of trucks and transport trailers required by the gas industry. He estimates that more than a dozen moose are killed daily.

While Gitscheff, a trapper and hunter in the region, hasn't noticed any mutations or internal health problems in the animals, the gas industry's massive footprint has carved out crucial pieces of wildlife habitat.

They're competing for land because good oil and gas country, he says, is also good wildlife country.

"When you have a geological formation that makes coal and oil and gas, for whatever reason it's also good for wildlife."

Pipeline right of ways can destroy wildlife connections between land and water, he said. He added that one solution would be boring underground to build instead of digging the surface.

Exploration activity can destroy trees and scare away female animals who nest in them, leaving young marten and fisher to die.

"Companies should be obligated to mitigate this. Who's going to push that? The public." EMILY JACKSON/METRO IN VANCOUVER

MORE IN OUR FRACKING SERIES

Online

- **Photo gallery.** For a tour of the Hawkwood ranch near Cochrane, Alta., visit metronews.ca.

our health?

fracking activity near his ranch. A study by the Council of Canadian Academies found "additional research is required" on

Future of fracking

'We can do better'

There's a prevailing sense in the north that no matter what, companies will frack the land to get to the gas.

Regardless of where people fall on the spectrum between welcoming economic growth and wanting to stop fracking for fear of side effects on health and the land, they all seem to believe one thing: If development is going to happen, it can be done better.

On the relationship between companies and communities

"Can we do better? Absolutely." — Geoff Morrison, manager of B.C. operations for the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers

On where pipelines are placed and wildlife impact studies

"We have science, we have technology, we can do a better job. There's no doubt about it, and it's to the industry's benefit to do a better job." — Carl Gitscheff of the B.C. Wildlife Federation

On B.C.'s striving to be a world leader in environmental practices

"We can harvest the resources we have and leave a lighter footprint. We can do better. We have that opportunity here in British Columbia." — Fort St. John, B.C. mayor Lori Ackerman

EMILY JACKSON/
METRO IN VANCOUVER

The best of the best?

"We in British Columbia do fracking better than anybody else in the world."

B.C. Premier Christy Clark

B.C. Premier Christy Clark is a staunch supporter of fracking. THANDI FLETCHER/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Cracks in foundation

Report on safety. B.C. unmoved as rest of the country remains fractured on fracking

MATT KIELTYKA
Metro in Vancouver

There are mounting calls for British Columbia to join other provinces and ease its foot off the liquefied natural gas (LNG) pedal to better study the health and environmental impacts of fracking.

The Council of Canadian Academies (CCA) last week released a report concluding that there isn't enough scientific study about the impacts of fracking to declare it safe.

The independent report specifically cited concerns about well integrity, emissions and the possibility of water contamination.

Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador have all had similar concerns and placed moratoriums on the practice.

But the B.C. government has refused to do the same.

"I don't agree with (the CCA)," Rich Coleman, the minister responsible for LNG, told media. "(The report) does not give me any cause for concern because I know we already study this on a regular basis. We track it on a regular basis and we know what our stats are. I think we have it pretty much right."

Lack of confidence

Not everyone shares the government's confidence.

The proposed TransCanada North Montney Mainline project in northeast B.C. would see a 301-kilometre pipeline carry natural gas through Halfway River First Nation territory.

"The elders look out their back window and that line will be right there," said Halfway River Chief Darlene Hunter. "It's just like me coming into your backyard and ripping up your place and being OK with that."

Striking a balance between economic development and health concerns has been a challenge for many First Nations, according to Prophet River Chief Lynette Tsakoza.

"Right now it's a big concern," Tsakoza said. "Every nation wants economic development, and at the same time we're trying to fight for our territory, our environment and our water. Everything."

Fears around fracking

Dr. Warren Bell, a family physician in Salmon Arm, B.C. and founding member of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, believes the fears around fracking are justified.

"There's abundant evidence in the Eastern States where fracking has been going on for some time. You've heard of a burning drinking water scenario, and that's because chemicals have come up far, far away from the well site simply because in this process of fracturing, you allow gases to escape. Methane plus the chemicals used in fracking, some of which are carcinogens, are starting to appear in places they shouldn't be."

The province has commissioned its own human health assessment into oil and gas development in northeast B.C., which is currently underway by a company called Intrinsik Environmental Services.

The findings are expected to be handed over to the Ministry of Health sometime this summer.

Fort St. John Mayor Lori Ackerman, who wants to see increased air monitoring in her city, said the community welcomes the study.

"If there are issues, then necessity is the mother of all invention and let's take a look at how we can correct that," Ackerman said. "If we don't have baseline [air quality] information, then this is a way to get it, through this study."

Critics, however, are concerned the findings may fall on deaf ears.

The NDP Opposition has accused the provincial government of undermining the environment with regulation changes that allow for gas development on protected agricultural and park lands.

The Liberals also attempted to scrap the environmental assessment process for sweet natural gas plants in April.

But those plans were reversed within hours after government and industry reps were ejected from an LNG conference hosted by shocked and angry First Nations leaders in Fort Nelson.

Forced to apologize

Environment Minister Mary Polak was forced to apologize for "failing to discuss the amendment with First Nations prior to its approval."

West Coast Environmental Law Association lawyer Anna Johnston warned the steps amount to "a slide towards environmental deregulation."

That hasn't stopped the government from trying to reassure the public that fracking — so integral to B.C.'s economic outlook — is safe.

"We in British Columbia do fracking better than anybody else in the world," Premier Christy Clark told Metro after announcing an LNG trade mission to Asia on April 30. "We learn from what we do here because, in 50 years of fracking, there hasn't been a single reported case of water contamination in British Columbia. That's a pretty good record."

WITH FILES FROM THANDI FLETCHER

It's not a great climate for independent bookstores either — but there are some bucking the trend. Scan the photo below with your Metro News app to see a gallery of stores across Canada sharing their secrets to success.

Closing the book on old-fashioned browsing

Inside the now-closed World's Biggest Bookstore in Toronto. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

A history of bookstores in Canada

1839

The Book Room opens in Halifax and is billed as Canada's first bookstore.

1940

Brothers Carl and Jack Cole open the first Coles Store in Toronto, marking the start of a small bookstore chain.

1995

SmithBooks (which used to be called W.H. Smith) and its main rival Coles merge to form Chapters Inc., marking the start of the nation's first book superstores.

1996

McNally Robinson opens in Winnipeg, described as Canada's largest independent bookstore

2001

Chapters and Indigo merge to create Canada's biggest bookstore chain, Indigo Books & Music Inc. Chapters.ca launches.

2002

Indigo's online rival Amazon.com, which launched in 1995, starts a Canadian version, Amazon.ca.

2008

The Book Room closes after 169 years in business, due to the increased competition from big-box stores.

2009

Indigo launches the Kobo e-reader to much fanfare.

2011

Kobo Inc. is sold to a Japanese firm for $315 million US.

2014

Indigo's The World's Biggest Bookstore and two Chapters stores close in Toronto.

The end of bookstores?

Whether indie or big box, Canadian stores are fighting for survival

MELISSA DUNNE
melissa.dunne@metronews.ca

The Sarfraz family pulled into a dark, deserted mall parking lot.

As sunrise approached, Aisha Sarfraz, 8, was joined by other girls in a growing line outside the Indigo bookstore at Yorkdale Mall in Toronto. Just after 7 a.m., Sarfraz got to go behind the black velvet curtain. The girls (with mothers, fathers and brothers in tow) rushed past the books and into the new pink-and-white American Girl store within the Indigo.

"It was fun," said the fan.

The morning ended with another line at the register and a $941 receipt.

The price of the dolls, which start at $125, did not deter more than 5,000 people in Toronto and Vancouver from checking out Indigo CEO Heather Reisman's latest business gambit last weekend. While books become a harder sell, Canada's only national bookstore chain is stocking everything from dolls to Poppin office supplies to toasted coconut marshmallows. For fiscal 2013, its consolidated revenues slid 4.4 per cent to $892.5 million. Reisman is set to announce fiscal 2014 results on May 27.

They declined to comment for this story.

"They're obviously working out what they're going to evolve to," said Maureen Atkinson, a retail analyst at J.C. Williams Group. "Not everything they're testing will be a hit."

Back in 1995, U.S. bookstore giants Barnes & Noble and Borders Group planned to open superstores north of the border. Reisman was head of Cott Beverages, and was approached to lead Borders' bid. The plan was quashed, as it did not meet Canada's ownership policies for foreign booksellers. Borders filed for bankruptcy in 2011. Barnes & Noble's bid also failed and it is limping towards its 100th birthday in 2017.

Reisman, now 65, has proven to be remarkably resilient over the years. After the Borders deal crumbled she opened her first Indigo Books, Music & More store in 1997 in Burlington, Ont. By 2001 Indigo and Chapters merged, effectively giving the tastemaker a monopoly on Canada's book market.

Just like in the board game Monopoly (which you can now buy at Indigo) the dice mostly rolled in Reisman's favour. The superstore format was a hit with consumers and by the end of 2009 the savvy businesswoman had 96 superstores and 151 small-format stores, according to Indigo's financial reports.

But the game is changing. By the end of 2013, Indigo was down to 131 small stores. By the end of May it will have closed three superstores in Toronto this year, including the World's Biggest Bookstore. When a 22,000-square-foot Chapters store closed in Toronto in February, the founder pinned the closures partially on soaring rents. But that's only part of the tale.

"If you are in the book business you have to be online because that's where the customers are," said Atkinson.

Reisman has seen the writing on the wall. At least for now, physical paperback books are still the No. 1 choice for readers, making up 58 per cent of sales in 2012, followed by hardcovers at 24 per cent, according to BookNet, a non-profit that collects data on the industry. But many of those books are now bought online.

Indigo launched chapters.indigo.ca in 2001. In 2002 Amazon.ca, the Canadian version of Amazon.com, came along. Amazon is now the world's largest online retailer, with revenue of $74.5 billion US in 2013.

Selling online cuts overhead costs, but it is cut-throat. The "Heathers Kids Pick" The Day the Crayons Quit is $19 in Indigo stores, but $13.72 in the online store for Plum Rewards users — the same price as on Amazon.ca. Price-matching seems to be working. From Oct. to Dec. 2013, Indigo's online sales surged 19.3 per cent to a record $41.5 million, said a release. And then there's ebooks.

Indigo launched the e-reader Kobo to much fanfare in 2010. By the end of 2011 Kobo Inc. was sold for $315 million US. It's looking like a smart move as a 2013 BookNet study found the appetite has already plateaued at about 15 per cent. A Pew Research Center report shows 32 per cent of ebook readers read them on their phones, while 78 per cent of tablet owners read them on those devices.

But the competition for ebooks remains stiff. The Day the Crayons Quit is $11.99 for the Kobo edition, while Amazon.ca's Kindle version is $8.99.

The young Aisha is a bit old-fashioned. She still buys the real thing in person at Yorkdale's Indigo. Her mother and little brother usually tag along. The store is trying hard to appeal to mothers too, offering everything from Godiva chocolates to a 50-per-cent off sale this week on five books for Mother's Day. But Aisha's mother, Sarah, can't recall ever buying anything for herself.

"I'm not a reader, I'm a movie person," she said.

If Indigo is to make it to its 20-year anniversary and beyond it will have to find a way to get all those moms, dads and brothers who lined up alongside the girls for the American Girl store to buy something too.

Closures

What we lose

When Harry meets Sally again it is in the self-help section of a New York City bookstore.

In the rom-com classic Billy Crystal (Harry) and Meg Ryan (Sally) eventually live happily ever after, after bumping into each other at a Shakespeare & Co. store.

Whether you are looking to pick up a book or a long-lost lover, when we lose bookstores we lose the possibility of running into an old friend, or making a new one, between the book stacks.

The bestselling fantasy writer and bookstore fanatic Guy Gavriel Kay recently lost his favourite local haunt, Book City. He would often pop in to see what would pop up and tickle his fancy.

Aisha Sarfraz, 8, waits in line outside an Indigo shop in Toronto. CONTRIBUTED

Hopping online is just not the same.

If the 1989 flick was set in 2014 perhaps Sally would have popped up on Harry's Twitter feed. Perhaps he would have just scrolled right past her.

"A lot of our culture today narrows us to our own online community of shared tastes and views. A bookstore is wide open and that helps make us wider and more open," writes Kay over email.

"We risk losing that as bookstores close."

GET MORE IN A FORD

THE STANDARD FEATURES YOU EXPECT AND SOME YOU DON'T

#1 SELLING AUTOMOTIVE COMPANY IN CANADA[1] 2010–2013

2014 FIESTA S

Fiesta Titanium model shown

2014 FIESTA BEST-IN-CLASS HIGHWAY FUEL CONSUMPTION FOR 1.0L 3-CYLINDER ECOBOOST[2]

PURCHASE FINANCE FOR ONLY

OWN FOR ONLY **$75**** @ **0.99%** APR

FINANCE BI-WEEKLY FOR 84 MONTHS WITH **$0 DOWN** INCLUDES FREIGHT

OR OWN FOR ONLY $13,198

OFFERS INCLUDE $2,500 IN MANUFACTURER REBATES.
OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$75**
$750	$71**
$1,500	$67**

STANDARD FEATURES

- 6-SPEAKER AUDIO
- POWER DOOR LOCKS
- AUDIO INPUT JACK
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM
- ADVANCETRAC® WITH ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL
- 60/40 SPLIT REAR SEATS
- 15" STEEL WHEELS
- QUAD-BEAM HALOGEN HEADLAMPS
- 7 AIRBAGS

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- HILL START ASSIST
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- TORQUE VECTORING CONTROL

2014 FOCUS S

Focus Titanium model shown

WORLD'S BEST-SELLING CAR NAMEPLATE[2]

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OR OWN FOR ONLY $14,948

OFFERS INCLUDE $2,500 IN MANUFACTURER REBATES.
OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$85**
$750	$81**
$1,500	$77**

STANDARD FEATURES

- REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- ADVANCETRAC® WITH ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL
- INDEPENDENT REAR SUSPENSION
- AUDIO INPUT JACK
- POWER WINDOWS/LOCKS
- AM/FM/CD/MP3
- 160-HP ENGINE
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM
- ANTI-THEFT ENGINE IMMOBILIZER

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- AIR CONDITIONING
- ACTIVE GRILLE SHUTTERS
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- INTEGRATED BLIND SPOT MIRRORS
- TORQUE VECTORING CONTROL

2014 ESCAPE S

Escape Titanium model shown

CANADA'S BEST SELLING SUV[3]

PURCHASE FINANCE FOR ONLY

OWN FOR ONLY **$149**** @ **1.99%** APR

FINANCE BI-WEEKLY FOR 84 MONTHS WITH **$0 DOWN** INCLUDES FREIGHT

OR OWN FOR ONLY $25,178

OFFERS INCLUDE $750 IN MANUFACTURER REBATES.
OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
$0	$149**
$750	$144**
$1,500	$140**

STANDARD FEATURES

- ADVANCETRAC® WITH ROLL STABILITY CONTROL
- AIR CONDITIONING
- 6-SPEED SELECTSHIFT® TRANSMISSION
- REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- 7 AIRBAGS
- TRACTION CONTROL
- 6-SPEAKER AUDIO
- TIRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM
- FLAT LOAD FLOOR

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- INTEGRATED BLIND SPOT MIRRORS
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- ACTIVE GRILLE SHUTTERS
- CURVE CONTROL
- TORQUE VECTORING CONTROL

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OFFERS EXCLUDE TAXES.

DOWN	BI-WEEKLY
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$3,450	$236***
$4,350	$198***

EXPECTED FEATURES

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- 360 HP
- 380 LB-FT TORQUE
- FLAT LOAD FLOOR
- ALL-TERRAIN TIRES
- EASY FUEL® CAPLESS FUEL FILLER
- MACHINED ALUMINUM WHEEL
- POWER REMOTE MIRRORS

UNEXPECTED FEATURES

- REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
- POWER MIRRORS
- VOICE-ACTIVATED SYNC®
- ENGINE BLOCK HEATER
- HILL START ASSIST

Our advertised prices include Freight, Air Tax, and PPSA (if financed or leased). Add dealer administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and applicable taxes, then drive away.

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Vehicle(s) may be shown with optional equipment. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers only valid at participating dealers. Retail offers may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. For factory orders, a customer may either take advantage of eligible Ford retail customer promotional incentives/offers available at the time of vehicle factory order or time of vehicle delivery, but not both or combinations thereof. Retail offers not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). * Until June 30, 2014. Purchase a new 2014 [Fiesta S/ Fiesta Titanium/ Focus S/ Focus Titanium/Escape S FWD/ Escape Titanium] for [$13,198/$21,164/$14,948/$26,164/$25,178/$32,398] (after Total Manufacturer Rebate of [$2,500/$500/$2,500/$500/$750/$1,500]) deducted). Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after total manufacturer rebate has been deducted. Offers include freight and air tax but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ** Until June 30, 2014, receive 0.99%, /0.99%/1.99% APR purchase financing on new 2014 [Fiesta S Hatch/ Focus S / Escape S] models for up to 84 months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: 2014 Ford [Fiesta S Hatch/Focus S/ Escape S]. for $13,198/ $14,948/$25,178 (after $0,$750/$1,500/$0,$750/$1,500/$0,$750/$1,500 down payment or equivalent trade-in, and $2,500/$2,500/$750 Manufacturer Rebate deducted) purchase financed at 0.99%/0.99%/1.99% APR for 84 months, monthly payment is $163,$154,$145/$185, $176,$169/$322,$312,$303 (the sum of twelve (12) monthly payments divided by 26 periods gives payee a bi-weekly payment of $75,$71, $67/$85,$81,$77/$149,$144,$140), interest cost of borrowing is $470,$443,$416/$532,$505,$479/$1,819,$1,765,$1,711 or APR of 0.99%/0.99%/1.99% and total to be repaid is $13,650,$13,672,$13,694/$15,470,$15,492,$15,514/$27,118,$26,858,$26,980. Down payment may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. All purchase finance offers include freight and air tax and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. *** Until June 30, 2014 lease a new 2014 Ford [F-150 XLT Supercrew 4x4] for up to 24 months and get 1.49% APR on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Lease [F-150 XLT Supercrew 4x4] with a value of $29,858 after [$1,950/$3,450/$4,350] down payment or equivalent trade in. ([$8,500] manufacturer rebates, and $11,200] Ford Credit Cash deducted and including freight and air tax of [$1,800]) at 1.49% APR for up to 24 months with an optional buyout of $22,363, monthly payment is $299/$236/$198), total lease obligation is [$9,126/$9,114/$9,102]. Offers include freight, air tax, and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. Additional payments required for optional features, license, and insurance. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Some conditions and mileage restriction of 40,000km for 24 months applies. Excess kilometrage charges are 16¢per km for F-Series, plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change, see your local dealer for details. ◊ Offer only valid from May 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with an eligible Costco membership on or before April 30, 2014. Receive $500 towards the purchase or lease of a new 2014/2015 Ford Fiesta (excluding S), Focus (excluding S and BEV), C-MAX, and $1,000 towards all other Ford models (excluding Raptor, GT500, Mustang Boss 302, and Medium Truck) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Limit one (1) offer per each Eligible Vehicle purchase or lease, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. Applicable taxes calculated before offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer. Offers only valid at participating dealers. Retail offers may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. For factory orders, a customer may either take advantage of eligible Ford retail customer promotional incentives/offers available at the time of vehicle factory order or time of vehicle delivery, but not both or combinations thereof. Retail offers not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). ◊ Based on year-end 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 total sales figures for light vehicles in Canada from DesRosiers Automotive Consultants Inc. (and Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association data exchanged by OEMs). ¹ Based on 2007 - 2013 R. L. Polk vehicle registrations data for Canada in the Large Premium Utility, Large Traditional Utility, Large Utility, Medium Premium Utility, Medium Utility, Small Premium Utility, and Small Utility segments. ² Based on highway driving in a 2014 Fiesta 1.0L GTDI - I3 6-Speed Automatic and estimated fuel consumption ratings of 6.2L/100km City and 4.3L/100km Hwy using Government of Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. ³ Claim based on analysis by Ford of Polk global new registration for CY2012 for a single nameplate which excludes rebadged vehicles, platform derivatives or other vehicle nameplate versions. ⁴ F-Series is the best-selling pickup truck in Canada for 48 years in a row based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales reports, up to December 2013. ©2014 Sirius Canada Inc. 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Fly to N.Y.C. for $100! Oh, plus lots of fees and taxes

Airlines tried and failed to block a federal rule in the U.S. making them tell passengers up front the full cost of airfare, including government taxes and fees. So they're trying another route, asking Congress to do what the Obama administration and the courts refused to do: roll back the law.

A bill in Congress would allow airlines to return to their old way of doing things, which was to emphasize in ads the base airfare — the amount airlines charge passengers to fly — but reveal the full price including taxes and fees separately.

Before the Transportation Department put its regulation in place two years ago, airlines and ticketing services would typically display the lower base fare in large type and show taxes and fees in small print. Consumers shopping online often weren't shown taxes and fees unless they scrolled to the bottom of the web page or clicked through several pages after selecting a flight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Downer. U.S. insurers wary about covering pot

Patients who use medical marijuana for pain and other chronic symptoms can take an unwanted hit: Insurers don't cover the treatment, which costs as much as $1,000 US a month.

Once the drug of choice for hippies and rebellious teens, marijuana in recent years has gained more mainstream acceptance for its ability to boost appetite, dull pain and reduce seizures in everyone from epilepsy to cancer patients in America.

Still, insurers are reluctant to cover it, in part because of conflicting laws. While 21 U.S. states have passed laws approving it for medical use, the drug still is illegal federally and in most states.

But perhaps the biggest hurdle for insurers is the U.S. Food and Drug Administration hasn't approved it. Major insurers generally don't cover treatments that are not approved by the FDA, and that approval depends on big clinical studies that measure safety, effectiveness and side effects.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man who suffers from epileptic seizures and leg pain from a childhood case of polio prepares a medical marijuana joint in California. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tim Hortons takes a swing at McDonald's

New items coming.

The coffee and doughnut chain wants to eat into other fast-food franchises' lunch by serving up more midday options

The iconic coffee and doughnut chain aims to lure you back after your morning cup of Joe with lunch options that rival other fast-food chains' offerings. FACEBOOK

Tim Hortons chief executive Marc Caira says he wants the chain to be a priority for Canadians at the lunch hour.

The CEO said Thursday that he's determined to make the company the lunchtime leader among quick-food outlets through its growing variety of sandwiches, grilled paninis and other offerings.

"In this low-growth era you need to aggressively go after these segments because there's potential to grow," he said in an interview after the company's shareholders meeting.

Caira said the recent launch of its crispy chicken sandwich is helping the company achieve the goal of presenting itself as an alternative to its biggest competitors, which include McDonald's and Burger King.

At the same time, Caira wants to focus more on nutrition, emphasizing that his company's chicken sandwich contains more protein and less fat than comparable offerings.

"Our responsibility is to make the product as healthy as possible and provide you the information to help you make the right decision," he said. "It's very easy to make (a) donut really, really healthy. The problem is you wouldn't buy it because there's no taste." Caira said the national coffee and doughnut chain needs to move faster to test and launch food items as it faces off against aggressive competitors.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Messaging app

Snapchat settles with FTC over false privacy claims

Snapchat has agreed to settle with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission over charges that it deceived customers about the disappearing nature of messages sent through its service and that it collected users' contacts without telling them or asking permission.

The messaging app lets users send pics, videos and messages that disappear.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Breakfast of champions

How about a BK Whopper to start your day off right?

Burger King has some new additions to its breakfast menu in the U.S. — its flame-broiled burgers.

The Burgers at Breakfast menu includes its whoppers, cheeseburgers and big king sandwiches, as well as its original chicken sandwich, french fries and apple pie. The items are offered alongside the chain's normal breakfast menu.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nothing artificial?

Turns out Kashi products not 'All Natural' after all

Kellogg says it will no longer use the All Natural or Nothing Artificial labels on certain Kashi products as part of an agreement to settle a class-action lawsuit.

The suit accused Kashi of misleading people by stamping the phrase "All Natural "or "Nothing Artificial" on products that contained a variety of synthetic and artificial ingredients.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 92.40¢ (+0.61¢)

TSX 14,546.03 (-110.37)

OIL $100.26 US (-$0.51)

GOLD $1,287.70 US (-$1.20)

Natural gas: $4.58 US (-$0.17)
Dow Jones: 16,550.97 (+32.43)

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Sunday, June 1

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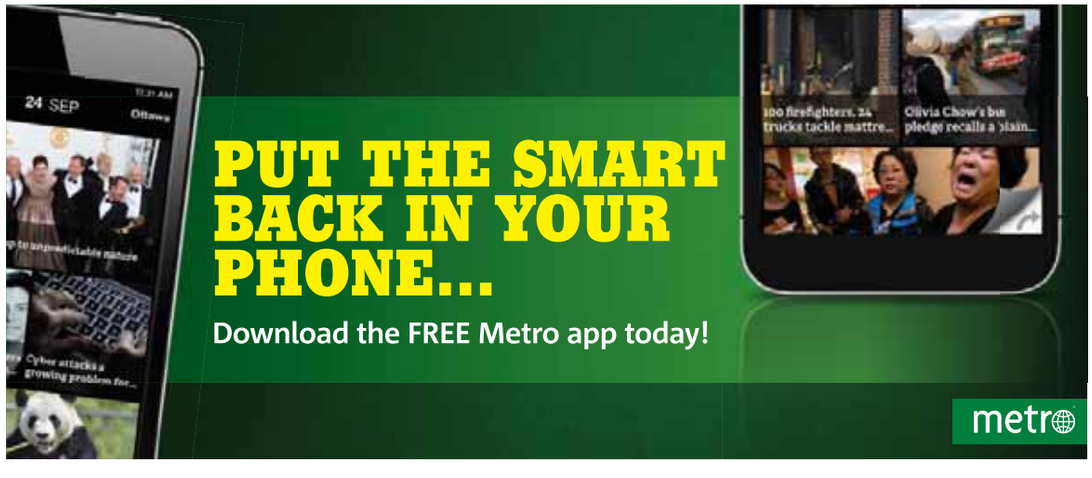

LIFE'S JUST BETTER IN THE COLD

THE METRO LIST

Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

1 **Keep on Tweetin'.** Twitter stock plummeted to record lows this week when it was revealed that the social media monster fell far short of projected growth. Is it ironic that this was one of the top trending news items on Twitter?

2 **Best of 'gluck.** Thailand's prime minister, Yingluck Shinawatra, was ousted from office by the Constitutional Court in Bangkok this week. The claim is that of alleged "abuse of power," which is not only controversial but makes me wonder if we're even still talking about politics.

3 **Missing mayor.** I never thought I'd see the day when we'd be looking for Rob Ford, let alone that he would be hard to find.

4 **High praise.** Pope Francis decided to wing it in his Palm Sunday homily, calling on people to look into their own hearts to see how they're living and then into their phones to snap them some selfies. He then hopped on the popemobile, pointed, winked and said, "Keep it real, homies." #OMGCoolestPopeEver

5 **Northern bliss.** Canada ranked fifth on the Better Life Index based on a survey of what people believe to be the "most important factors for quality of life." Countries ahead of us included Denmark, Sweden and Norway, leading me to believe that the "most important factors" are skiing, bobsledding and hockey.

6 **#VegasBaby.** Ben Affleck won so much money at blackjack that he was banned by the Hard Rock Casino for allegedly counting cards. This, in my opinion, is an impressive skill for which the victor deserves the spoils. Know anyone who's been banned for losing too much? Think about it while I go play basketball against eight-year-olds for money.

7 **Sound of music.** It's Canadian Music Week in Toronto. Great time to witness amazing burgeoning talent from other parts of the country and beyond. When I hear American divas complain about not making enough money and playing half-empty venues, I always say, "There are starving artists in Canada who would kill to have what you have!" And we laugh. Then I think about it, and it's actually not that funny. #CMW2014

8 **Cold truth.** Our nation's only current NHL playoff team is Montreal, but many Canucks seem unwilling to support "les Canadiens," and I believe that Lord Stanley would be turning over in his silver-plated grave. The Parti Québécois lost the election. The least we can do is cheer for the Habs because the closest the rest of us will get to a championship is eating a Stanley Cup doughnut at Tim Hortons. #GoHabsGo

9 **Shattered (hoop) dreams.** The Toronto Raptors, who had come so far, fell just one point short of advancing to the second round on Sunday. On the bright side, the Brooklyn Nets suffered a humiliating defeat at the hands of the Miami Heat. That shouldn't make me feel any better, but somehow it just does.

ZOOM

Yes, I do have a frog in my throat

This is not the first time Angus James saved a frog from peril. "Funnily enough, when I was a kid one of my fondest memories is of saving tree frogs by picking them up off the road and into a bucket. Then I'd release them into the safety of the bush," he said. COURTESY ANGUS JAMES

Q&A

Avoiding croaking in the jaws of death

Meet the perch that literally had a frog in its throat. Angler Angus James was left gobsmacked when he discovered a green tree frog inside the mouth of the fish he caught in northern Queensland, Australia. James tells Metro about the moment when he realized something fishy was going on.

The frog had just survived being eaten and you had just pulled off this amazing catch, so who had the bigger smile? We both had pretty big smiles, but I reckon his was bigger after he'd jumped out of the fish's mouth.

It looks like the frog was hitching a jaw-side ride. But what actually happened? The perch must have just eaten the frog like a minute before I caught it. Normally fish like that go for smaller insects but maybe he was stocking up.

When did you realize that you'd caught a 2-for-1? I wasn't sure what it was at first — it looked like a splodge of green. Then, as I was removing the lure from the perch's mouth, the frog blinked. That's when I noticed what it was, and I quickly reached for my camera before it leapt over my shoulder.

You must have cat-like reactions to have managed to get your camera out in time. I used to be in the military, so I reckon the training kicked in. I whipped the camera out of my webbing (bag) and took the pic. But it wasn't till later that I realized just how funny the smiling frog looked.

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MetroTube

Drop the needle

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

You've likely heard a freshly inked pal describe the addictive nature of getting tattooed, that the first design often kicks off a yearning for the next session in the chair.

They may have also mentioned that the feeling fades in due course. But, if you happen to have a loved one in your life who you think might be ready to go a little overboard with the tats, perhaps this extremely slow motion clip of the messy, jiggly ordeal will provide a little perspective. Unless the pain is part of the pleasure, that is. (Via Tatted Up)

GETTY IMAGES

metro

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app. You talkin' to me? The frat holds a Robert De Niro party

It's all good in the 'hood

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Neighbors opens in theatres this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

Synopsis

Seth Rogen and Rose Byrne star as Mac and Kelly, aging hipsters and parents to newborn Stella. Their quiet suburban life is uprooted when unruly frat boys led by Teddy (Zac Efron) and Pete (Dave Franco) move in next door. "Make sure that if we're too noisy, call me," says Teddy on the eve of a big blowout. "Don't call the cops." When the house party spirals out of control, the couple has to call the police, thereby violating the fragile "circle of trust" between the two households. Trust broken, petty resentments trigger a Hatfield and McCoy's style feud between Teddy and Company and Mac and Kelly.

- Richard: ●●●●○
- Mark: ●●●○○

Neighbors. Frat boy humour is always funny — but Seth Rogen and Rose Byrne bring some maturity to the fold

Richard: Mark, there's an old saying that goes, "You can choose your friends, but you can't choose your family." True enough, but as this movie teaches us, you should add neighbours to the "cannot choose" list. Living next door to the frat boys would be a nightmare in real life, but in reel life, it's a great situation for humour. The movie is not so much a story as it is an idea played out in a series of gags, but it is funny. Raunchy, but funny.

Mark: Also a movie that would have us believe there are no zoning bylaws in this fictitious college town. And Richard, I half agree with you. There are two movies here. One is the story of a young married couple with a baby; the other, the story of a bunch of frat-house goofs. The former is extremely funny: Seth Rogen and Rose Byrne have a comedic chemistry as good as any great vaudeville duo. The frat boys, unfortunately, are mostly indistinguishable and their scenes made me long for Animal House. Why cast the wonderful Christopher Mintz-Plasse and give him so little to do?

RC: I wondered that as well, but let's face it, in the frat house side of things, Efron's abs are the star. And his hair. And toothy grin. No room for the less physical charms of Mintz-Plasse. The real charm here, though, as you say, lies with Rogen and Byrne. They have great chemistry, and are a natural match — like frat boys and bongs. Their story doesn't hinge on the war with the neighbours, however, as much as it does the way they battle against growing up. Their need to be thought of as cool while still being responsible adults, is very funny and adds a nice subtext to what could have been simply a very silly comedy.

MB: And in this way, the movie could be seen as a sequel to Knocked Up. Both films deal with Rogen as a dad and a late bloomer to maturity. Neighbours wouldn't be nearly as successful if the couple were older or stuffier. It hits the right note of them being almost young enough to take part in frat-house shenanigans, but not with the responsibility of a newborn. As a recent first-time dad, I can tell you they got all those jokes right. But, Richard, I still laughed the hardest at some of the physical stuff. The airbag sequence is bound to be a classic.

RC: The airbag gags made me laugh, for sure, but the real treat for me was watching Rose Byrne, in her natural Aussie accent, outcursing and outdoing Rogen with razor-sharp comic timing.

MB: Or check out her seduction scene of two frat kids — one male, one female — which will get an applause break from the audience every time!

With the new Godzilla film hitting North American shores on May 16th, it's time to brush up on the legendary monster movies. Spanning 60 years and 30 films, Godzilla has run the gamut from topical war metaphor to so-bad-they're-good B-movies. So without further adieu, it's time for a monster movie marathon.

COLIN MCNEIL
colin.mcneil@metronews.ca

5 Must-see Godzilla flicks

Gojira (1954)

Despite the franchise's low-rent reputation, the first-ever Godzilla film was much more than a special effects laden cheap thrill. In Japan, Godzilla himself was an allegory for something very real and very devastating: the atomic bomb. The negative effects of atom and hydrogen bomb testing were a contemporary reality in 1950s Japan, and Godzilla — a horrific force of destruction born out of nuclear testing — was their avatar. As the vengeful King of Monsters stomped through a grainy black-and-white Tokyo, raining radioactive death on a helpless city, Japanese audiences reportedly watched in "sombre silence, broken by periodic weeping." That according to the New York Times.

The Return of Godzilla (1984)

After decades of increasingly silly and light-hearted films, the Godzilla franchise was laid to rest in 1975 with Terror of Mechagodzilla. The big guy would rise again nearly 10 years later in The Return of Godzilla — a movie that saw the restoration of the malevolent monster that first emerged from the Pacific Ocean in 1954. Gone were the laughable monster sidekicks, and the basement-budget special effects. Facing off against the Japanese military and their ultimate anti-Godzilla weapon, this would be one of the only Godzilla films ever made not to feature an enemy kaiju (giant monster).

Godzilla (1998)

Hollywood's first attempt at an American Godzilla flick crashed and burned in spectacular fashion, tanking at the box office and ticking off old-school Godzilla fans, who struggled to recognize the iconic monster's T-Rex style makeover. A "lobotomized" (as one writer puts it) plot and poor acting earned the film the 1998 Raspberry for Worst Remake or Sequel. The movie was so bad, Toho went out of its way to acknowledge the American Godzilla as a completely separate entity from the "real" King of Monsters, and would poke fun at it in movies to come.

Destroy All Monsters (1968)

This is rubber-suit-wearing, cardboard-city-destroying action at its finest. There are spaceships, aliens, and yes, *monsters*. Eleven of them, actually. When the world's kaiju (giant monsters) start going haywire and attacking various capital cities around the globe, it turns out a race of all-female silver-jumpsuit-wearing aliens are behind it, using mind-control devices on the monsters and levelling the Earth. Unlike its illustrious predecessor of the 1950s, Destroy all Monsters is pure B-movie shlock. With amusingly poor special effects, hilarious English dubbing, wild editing, and just general nonsensical plot elements, it's a monster-mash that's so bad, it's good.

Godzilla 2000 (1999)

In 1999, Toho — the company behind each and every Japanese Godzilla film — rebooted the franchise for a third time with Godzilla 2000, a classically minded modern take on the king of kaiju. Godzilla 2000 combined the old-school master model work that made Godzilla famous in the first place with the computer-generated special effects of a new age. The result was a film that retained all the cheesy charm of the Godzilla of yesteryear, with the best special effects of the day. Unlike its 1954 or 1984 counterparts, Godzilla 2000 doesn't it take itself too seriously.

Movies. Gerard Butler makes his Point and Breaks from film remake

Gerard Butler has left the Point Break remake.

The Point Break schedule clashed with that of the Olympus Has Fallen sequel for the 300 and How to Train Your Dragon actor.

Butler had been in place to play the role of Bodhi, originally portrayed by Patrick Swayze in the 1991 surf-and-bank-heist original, while Luke Bracey (G.I. Joe: Retaliation) is FBI agent Johnny Utah (originally Keanu Reeves), tasked with infiltrating Bodhi's gang.

The split results from both creative differences and scheduling issues, according to sources speaking with The Hollywood Reporter, with Point Break to shoot from June and London Has Fallen calling its returning cast to set in August.

That means a new Bodhi for Alcon Entertainment (April 2014's Transcendence) and director Ericson Core (2006 sports film Invincible), with Alcon determined to stick to its original start date for Point Break.

AFP

Gerard Butler AFP

Get set for a leaner, meaner Godzilla

Return of the reptile. New Godzilla pays homage to the nightmare of the film that started it all

CHRIS ALEXANDER
scene@metronews.ca

Godzilla opens in theatres next Friday. CONTRIBUTED

Sixty years ago, a reptilian nightmare was birthed from the bowels of Tokyo to lay waste to everything in its path, roaring like atomic death and sending Japan into a pop culture swoon. The film was 1954's Gojira, shipped to the U.S., dubbed, padded with footage of character actor Raymond (Perry Mason) Burr looking concerned and re-titled Godzilla. Sequel followed sequel, new monsters were introduced and a global phenomenon that spanned generations and multiple-medias evolved, its scaly, iconic shadow still looming large.

And now, Legendary Pictures and British director Gareth Edwards have revived the Big G legacy anew for their hotly anticipated American remount. And though the filmmaker admits to a life-long love of 'Zilla flicks, nothing could properly prepare him for the myth he would end up inheriting.

"My first experience watching a Godzilla movie was when I was still at school," Edwards, whose previous film was the innovative indie hit Monsters.

"But I only saw the original black-and-white version when I was in my 30s after the British Film Institute rereleased the film on DVD. I had actually been watching it a few days before I got the call from my agent. He asked if I was sitting down, so I did. They then asked 'Legendary have called and asked if you'd be interested in Godzilla?' After that, I made a point of tracking all 28 of the films down and completing my collection. I even bought the Hanna-Barbera Cartoon — that how keen I was to be a good student!"

Anyone who has seen the spine-shaking theatrical trailer for Edwards' Godzilla redux knows that Edwards and company are not fooling around. This isn't a mere man-in-a-suit Toho Studios 'Zilla romp, nor is it the smarmy, dumbed-down-dino opus of the 1998 Roland Emmerich fiasco. This Godzilla is a nightmare, akin to the original film. A tale of human folly answered by the apocalypse in the form of a massive prehistoric force of destructive nature. In short, this is a horror movie. And yet, Edwards promises not to sacrifice the story's humanity in favour of numbing shock.

"I think all filmmaking is about finding the right balance between things," notes the director.

"The spectacle is pointless if you don't care about the outcome, but if we focus purely on the characters then it would make for a very frustrating Godzilla movie. From my point of view, the films that got this right like Jaws, Alien and Jurassic Park, have great characters that you really grow to care about whilst they're slowly pulled in deeper and deeper into the situation. If you actually sit and analyze these films, the real monsters don't turn up for about an hour, but it never feels that way because you're so invested in what is happening at every turn."

If Godzilla does well at the box office, there will no doubt be more films to follow. And if it doesn't? Well, there will likely still be more, such is the enduring appeal of the character and what it represents, as Edwards explains.

"I think for millions of years we've lived as part of nature where every day there was the constant threat that an animal would come and kill our loved ones or attack our cave. It's only in the last few generations that we live in cities and have pushed nature out, but that fear of the animal coming doesn't go away.

"It's hardwired into our DNA so as our caves become bigger, like 30-storey buildings, our fears become bigger, too. I think this is why we'll always have subconscious fear of giant creatures attacking our cities. "

Comedy

Moms' Night Out

Director. Andrew Erwin (II) , Jon Erwin

Stars. Patricia Heaton, Sarah Drew

All Allyson and her friends want is a peaceful, grown-up evening of dinner and conversation — a long-needed moms' night out. But in order to enjoy high heels, adult conversation and food not served in a paper bag, they need their husbands to watch the kids for three hours ...What could go wrong?

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 21 % Audience: 88%

Family

Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return

Director. Dan St. Pierre , Will Finn

Stars. Lea Michele, Jim Belushi

Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return is a 3D-animated musical based on the adventure books by Roger Stanton Baum, the great-grandson of L. Frank Baum. A continuation of one of the world's most popular and beloved fairy tales, Legends of Oz finds Dorothy (Lea Michele) waking to post-tornado Kansas, only to be whisked back to Oz to try to save her old friends.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 0% Audience: 75 %

Action/Sci-fi

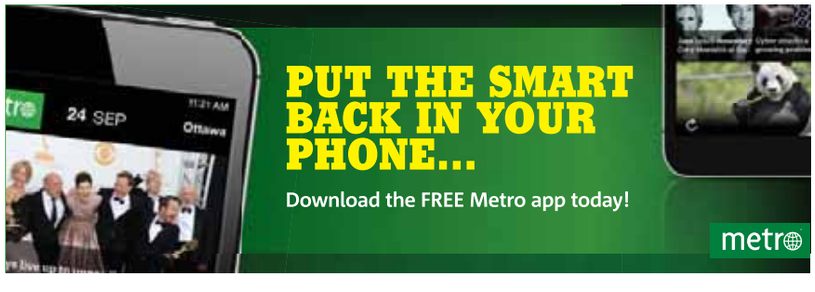
Nymphomaniac

Director. Lars von Trier

Stars. Stellan Skarsgård, Charlotte Gainsbourg

Nymphomaniac: Volume I is the story of Joe (Charlotte Gainsbourg), a self-diagnosed nymphomaniac who is discovered badly beaten in an alley by an older bachelor, Seligman (Stellan Skarsgård), who takes her into his home. As he tends to her wounds, she recounts the erotic story of her adolescence and young-adulthood (portrayed in flashback by newcomer Stacy Martin).

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: 80% Audience: 89 %



THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MAY 9 TO THURS., MAY. 15. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Bytowne Cinema
325 Rideau St.

Cas & Dylan (14A) Fri 6:55 Sat 4:50 Sun 2:15-6:45 Mon 4:45 Tue 9:15 Wed 5:01
Crossing Boundaries (STC) Wed 6:59
Nymphomaniac: Volume I (R) Mon 6:45 Tue 4:30
Nymphomaniac: Volume II (R) Fri 8:59 Sat 2:15-9:20 Sun 8:45 Mon 8:59 Tue 6:45 Wed 9:05 Thu 4:15
The Railway Man (14A) Fri 4:30 Sat 6:55 Sun 4:20

Canadian Museum of nature
240 McLeod St.

Call the Theater for Features and Show Times (STC) Fri-Thu

Coliseum Ottawa
3090 Carling Ave.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-1:40-3:40-5-7-8:20-10:20 Mon-Wed 4:45-5:45-8-9 Thu 1:15-4:45-5:45-8-9
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 2:40-6-9:20 Mon-Tue 3:30-6:45-10 Wed 3:30-10 Thu 3:30 Fri-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:50 Mon-Thu 4-7:15-10:30
Bears (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:20-4:40 Mon-Thu 4:40
Brick Mansions (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:30
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15 Thu 1:10
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:30
Divergent (PG) Fri 12:30-3:35-6:50-10:10 Sat 6:50-10:10 Sun 12:30-3:35-6:50-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:50-10:10
Godzilla 3D (PG) Thu 7-10
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri 12:40-3:20-6:40-9:40 Sat 6:40-9:40 Sun 4:40-7:10-9:40 Mon-Wed 4-6:40-9:40 Thu 1:20-4-10:10
The Last Unicorn (STC) Thu 7
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return (G) Fri-Sun 12:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:40-5:05-7:30 Mon-Thu 5:05-7:30
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 12:55
National Theatre Live: War Horse - Encore (STC) Sun 12:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Mon-Wed 5:25-7:55-10:20 Thu 1:30-5:25-7:55-10:20
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 1:20-4:30-7:50-10:40 Sat 1:20-4-7:50-10:40 Sun 1:20-4:30-7:50-10:40 Mon-Wed 4:30-7:40-10:35 Thu 1:25-4:30-7:40-10:35 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Sun 1 Thu 1:10
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Thu 3:50-6:30-9:10
Transcendence (PG) Fri-Thu 9:50

Mayfair Theatre
1074 Bank St.

Ace Ventura: Pet Detective (STC) Thu 7
Discopathe (STC) Sat 10:45
Fateful Findings (STC) Fri 11:30
Finding Vivian Maier (PG) Fri 6:45 Sat 6 Mon-Tue 6:45 Wed 4:45 Thu 4:30
Love Loves Coincidences (STC) Sat 1
Muppets Most Wanted (G) Sat 3:45 Sun 1:30-3:45
Noah (14A) Fri 4-8:45 Sat 8 Mon-Tue 4-8:45
On the Line (STC) Wed 7
Trailer Park Boys: Don't Legalize It (14A) Sun 9:30 Wed-Thu 9:30
The Village Under the Forest (STC) Sun 6:30

Rainbow Cinemas St. Laurent Centre, 1200 St. Laurent Blvd.,

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri-Thu 9:55-7:30
300: Rise of an Empire (18A) Fri-Thu 4-9:05
Bad Words (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:45-9:15
Draft Day (PG) Fri-Tue 10:30-1:10-6:40 Wed-Thu 10:30-6:40 Wed-Thu 1:10
Frozen (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-2:55-5:10
God's Not Dead (PG) Fri-Thu 9
The LEGO Movie (G) Fri-Tue 10-12:10-2:20-4:35-6:50 Wed 10-12:10-6:50 Thu 10-12:10-2:20-4:35-6:50
The Monuments Men (PG) Fri-Thu 3:50-9:10
Need for Speed (PG) Fri-Thu 10:20-1-6:30
Non-Stop (PG) Fri-Thu 10:10-2:30-7

South Keys
2214 Bank St.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 10:40-1:50-5-8:15
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Wed 11:40-3-6:20-9:35 Thu 11:40-3 Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-7-10:10
Bears (G) Fri 10:40-12:40-2:40-4:40 Sat 10:40-12:40-2:40-5:05 Sun-Thu 10:40-12:40-2:40-4:40
Brick Mansions (PG) Fri-Wed 11:50-2:20-4:45-7:25-9:50 Thu 11:50-2:20-4:45-9:50
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 3:45-6:55-10
Divergent (PG) Fri 12:10-3:30-6:45-9:45 Sat 6:45-9:45 Sun-Thu 12:10-3:30-6:45-9:45
Godzilla 3D (PG) Thu 7-10
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri-Thu 10:30-12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:15
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri 11:20-2-4:30-7:05-9:30 Sat 4:35-7:05-9:30 Sun-Thu 11:20-2-4:30-7:05-9:30
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 12:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:20
NOW: In the Wings on a World Stage (STC) Thu 7:30
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:30-10:05 Sat 2:10-4:50-7:30-10:05 Sun-Thu 11:30-2:10-4:50-7:30-10:05
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Thu 10:25-11:10-1:45
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Thu 4:20-6:50-9:20
Tooth Fairy (G) Sat 11
Transcendence (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:55

Canadian Museum of civilization
100 rue Laurier,

Destination Pacific Sud 3D (STC) Fri 10-8 Sat 4 Tue 1 Wed 1-7 Thu 4
Grand Nord (STC) Sun 4
Great North (STC) Sat 3 Sun 12 Mon 10-6 Tue 3
Journey to the South Pacific: An IMAX 3D Experience (STC) Fri 3-6 Sat 12-7 Sun 3-6 Mon 12-3 Tue 11-6 Wed 3-6 Thu 10-3-7
L' incroyable voyage des papillons 3D (STC) Thu 12
Nés pour être libres (STC) Fri 1
Pandas: The Journey Home (STC) Fri 11-2-5 Sat 11-2-5-8 Sun 11-2-5 Mon 11-2-5-7 Tue 2-5-8 Wed 10-2-5 Thu 11-2-5-8 Fri 12-4-7 Sat 1-6 Sun 1 Mon 1-4 Tue 12-4-7 Wed 4 Thu 1
To the Arctic (STC) Wed 11

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The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (G) Fri-Sun 6:50-9:30 Mon 6:50 Tue-Thu 6:50-9:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:30 Mon 6:40 Tue 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:30 Wed 9:10
Les Aventuriers Voyageurs - Le Costa Rica (STC) Wed 7
Heaven Is for Real (G) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10 Mon 6:50 Tue 12:50-3:10-6:50-9:10 Wed 6:50-9:10
Neighbors (13+) Fri-Sun 1-3:20-7-9:20 Mon 7 Tue 1-3:20-7-9:20 Wed-Thu 7-9:20
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Sun 1:10 Tue 1:10 Fri-Sun 3:10 Tue 3:10
Le règne de la beauté (13+) Thu 7:10-9:30

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Assaut extrême (13+) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:05-6:50-9 Mon 6:50-9 Tue 12:40-3:05-6:50-9 Wed 6:50-9
Casse-tête chinois (G) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:30-7:10-9:40 Mon 7:10-9:40 Tue 12:50-3:30-7:10-9:40 Wed-Thu 7:10-9:40
Divergence (G) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:15-6:45-9:35 Mon 6:45-9:35 Tue 12:15-3:15-6:45-9:35 Wed 6:45-9:35
Godzilla 3D (G) Thu 7-9:40
L'autre femme (G) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:50-7:15-9:45 Mon 7:15-9:45 Tue 1:20-3:50-7:15-9:45 Wed-Thu 7:15-9:45
L'extraordinaire Spider-Man 2 (G) Fri-Sun 1-4:10 Tue 1-4:10
L'extraordinaire Spider-Man 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12-3:10-6:30-8-9:30 Mon 6:30-8-9:30 Tue 12-3:10-6:30-8-9:30 Wed-Thu 6:30-8-9:30
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Sun 12:30 Mon 7:05 Tue 12:30 Wed-Thu 7:05
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3-9:25 Mon 9:25 Tue 3-9:25 Wed-Thu 9:25
Le règne de la beauté (13+) Thu 6:50-9
Un été en Provence (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:40-7:20-9:45 Mon 7:20-9:45 Tue 1:10-3:40-7:20-9:45 Wed-Thu 7:20-9:45
Les voisins (13+) Fri 11-1:15-3:45-7-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:45-7-9:20 Mon 7-9:20 Tue 11-1:15-3:45-7-9:20 Wed-Thu 7-9:20

StarCité Hull
115 boul. du Plateau

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (G) Fri 12:40-3:50-7-10:15 Sat 10:55-1:50-7-10:15 Sun 12:40-3:50-7-10:15 Mon 7:05-10:05 Tue 12:40-3:50-7-10:15 Wed 7:05-10:05 Thu 7:05-7:20-10:05-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 1:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 Mon 7:20-10:30 Tue 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 Wed 7:20-10:30 Thu 1:20
Capitaine America: Le soldat de l'hiver (G) Fri 1:45 Sun 1:45 Tue 1:45
Capitaine America: Le soldat de l'hiver 3D (G) Fri-Sun 4:50-7:40-10:40 Mon 7:15-10:15 Tue 4:50-7:40-10:40 Wed 7:15-10:15
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (G) Fri-Sun 1 Tue 1
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (G) Fri-Sun 4:05-7:25-10:30 Mon 7:25-10:25 Tue 4:05-7:25-10:30 Wed 7:25-10:25 Thu 1:20
Divergent (G) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:35-7:40-10:40 Mon 7:10-10:15 Tue 1:25-4:35-7:40-10:40 Wed 7:10-10:15 Thu 1:25
Gang de requins (G) Sat 11
Godzilla 3D (G) Thu 7:15-10 Thu 7-9:45
Heaven Is for Real (G) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:15-5:35-8:05-10:30 Mon 7:35-10 Tue 12:55-3:15-5:35-8:05-10:30 Wed 7:35-10 Thu 1:45-7:35-10
L'autre femme (G) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:15-7:20-9:55 Mon 7:25-9:55 Tue 1:40-4:15-7:20-9:55 Wed 7:25-9:55 Thu 1:25-7:25-9:55
L'extraordinaire Spider-Man 2 (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-5-8:15 Mon 8 Tue 1:15-5-8:15 Wed-Thu 8 Thu 1:15
L'extraordinaire Spider-Man 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-4-7:15-10:30 Mon 7:10-10:15 Tue 12:45-4-7:15-10:30 Wed 7:10-10:15 Thu 1:10-7:10-10:15
L'Hotel Grand Budapest (G) Fri-Sun 9:55 Mon 9:20 Tue 9:55 Wed-Thu 9:20
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return (STC) Fri-Sun 12:40 Tue 12:40
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 2:55-5:15-7:35 Mon 7 Tue 2:55-5:15-7:35 Wed 7 Thu 1:15-7
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 12:55
Million Dollar Arm (G) Thu 7:30-10:20
Neighbors (13+) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Mon 7:45-10:05 Tue 12:45-

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3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 Wed 7:45-10:05 Thu 1:35-7:45-10:05
The Other Woman (G) Fri 1:30-4:25-7:45-10:25 Sat 11-1:30-4:25-7:45-10:25 Sun 1:30-4:25-7:45-10:25 Mon 7-9:30 Tue 1:30-4:25-7:45-10:25 Wed 7-9:30 Thu 1:15-7-9:30
Rio 2 (G) Fri 1:15-4-7-9:35 Sat 10:55-1:15-4-7-9:35 Sun 1:15-4-7-9:35 Mon 7-9:35 Tue 1:15-4-7-9:35 Wed 7-9:35 Thu 1:25 Fri 12:45 Sat 11:05-12:45 Sun 12:45 Tue 12:45
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:15-5:40-8:05-10:25 Mon 7:15-9:45 Tue 3:15-5:40-8:05-10:25 Wed 7:15-9:45 Thu 1:30-7:15-9:45
Le règne de la beauté (13+) Thu 1:45-7:15-9:45
Tooth Fairy (G) Sat 11
Un été en Provence (G) Fri-Sun 1-3:25-5:55-8:15-10:45 Mon 7:20-9:50 Tue 1-3:25-5:55-8:15-10:45 Wed 7:20-9:50 Thu 1:35-7:20-9:50
Les voisins (13+) Fri-Sun 1-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:30 Mon 7:40-10 Tue 1-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:30 Wed 7:40-10 Thu 1:15-7:40-10

Barrhaven Cinemas

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The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 6:25-9:35 Sat-Sun 11:45-3:05-6:25-9:35 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:50 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 1 The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 7:10-10:20 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:20 Mon-Wed 7:10
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Sat-Sun 12:40 Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri 7-10:10 Sat-Sun 3:50-7-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:40
Divergent (PG) Fri-Sat 6:45 Sun 1-6:45 Mon-Thu 8
Godzilla 3D (PG) Thu 8
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri-Sat 9:50 Sun 4:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 12:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri 7:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:25-7:45
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 7:30-10:10 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:50-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:20
Rio 2 (G) Sat-Sun 11:30-2
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Sun 4:35-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 5-7:30
Tooth Fairy (G) Sat 11

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The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 2:45-6:10-9:30 Sat 11:20-12:20-2:45-6:10-9:30 Sun 12:15-4:45-8:05 Mon-Thu 2:45-6:10-9:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 12:10-2-3:25-5:25-6:45-8:45-10:05 Sat 2-4:30-5:25-5:45-8:45-9:05 Sun 12:10-2-3:25-5:25-6:45-8:45-10:05 Mon 2-3:25-5:25-6:45-8:45-10:05 Tue 12:10-2-3:25-5:25-6:45-8:45-10:05 Wed-Thu 2-3:25-5:25-6:45-8:45-10:05
The Amazing Spider-Man 2: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Wed 12:40-4-7:20-10:35 Thu 12:40-3:50
An American in Paris (G) Mon 7
Brick Mansions (PG) Fri 12:55-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:35 Sat 11:40-2:05-8-10:30 Sun 12:55-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:35 Mon 2:15-4:40-9:55 Tue 12:55-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:35 Wed 2:15-4:40-10:10 Thu 12:55-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:35
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25
Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (PG) Fri 3:45-7:05-10:25 Sat 3:45-10:25 Sun 3:45-7:05-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:45-7:05-10:25
Divergent (PG) Fri 12:50-4:05-7:25-10:45 Sat 3:50-7-10:10 Sun-Tue 12:50-4:05-7:25-10:45 Wed 12:25-3:35-10:05 Thu 12:50-4:05-7:25-10:45
Godzilla: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Thu 7-10
The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri 12:20-2:55-5:30-8:10-10:45 Sat 3:10-5:40-8:10-10:45 Sun-Tue 12:20-2:55-5:30-8:10-10:45 Wed 12:20-2:55-5:30-10:45 Thu 12:20-2:55-5:30-8:10-10:45
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri 11:55-2:20-4:55-7:35-10:15 Sat 2:20-4:55-7:35-10:15 Sun 11:55-2:20-4:55-7:35-10:15 Mon 2:20-4:55-7:35-10:15 Tue 11:55-2:20-4:55-7:35-10:15 Wed-Thu 2:20-4:55-7:35-10:15
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return (G) Fri 12 Sat 11:50-2:20-4:45-7:10 Sun 12 Mon 2:20 Tue 12 Wed 2:20-4:45-8:10 Thu 2:20
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return 3D (G) Fri 2:20-4:45-7:10 Sun 2:20-4:45-7:10 Mon 4:45-7:10 Tue 2:20-4:45-7:10 Thu 4:45-7:10
Metropolitan Opera: La Cenerentola (STC) Sat 12:55 Million Dollar Arm (PG) Sat 7 Wed 7-10:20 Moms' Night Out (PG) Fri-Tue 12:30-3-5:35-8:25-10:50 Wed 3:25-6-8:25-10:50 Thu 12:30-3-5:35-8:25-10:50
Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
National Theatre Live: War Horse - Encore (STC) Sun 12:55
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Sun 12:05-12:45-2:40-3:20-5:10-5:50-7:40-8:20-10:05-10:50 Mon 12:45-2:40-3:20-5:10-5:50-7:40-8:20-10:05-10:50 Tue 12:05-12:45-2:40-3:20-5:10-5:50-7:40-8:20-10:05-10:50 Wed 1-2:40-3:20-5:10-5:50-7:40-8:20-10:05-10:50 Thu 12:45-2:40-3:20-5:10-5:50-7:40-8:20-10:05-10:50
Noah (14A) Fri 12:15-3:30-6:50-10 Sat 12:15-6:20-9:35 Sun 3:30-6:50-10 Mon-Wed 12:15-3:30-6:50-10 Thu 3:30-9:35
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 11:50-2:25-5:05-7:50-10:40 Sat 12:30-3:30-5:10-7:50-10:40 Sun 11:50-2:25-5:05-7:50-10:40 Mon 2:25-5:05-7:50-10:40 Tue 11:50-2:25-5:05-7:50-10:40 Wed-Thu 2:25-5:05-7:50-10:40
Rio 2 (G) Fri 12-2:35 Sat 11:25-12-2:35 Sun 12-2:35 Mon 2:35 Tue 12-2:35 Wed-Thu 2:35
Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Tue 5:15-7:45-10:20 Wed 5:15-7:45 Thu 5:15-7:45-10:20
Short Peace (PG) Wed 7:30
Tooth Fairy (G) Sat 11
Transcendence (PG) Fri-Thu 9:40

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The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri 4:30-6:15-8:30 Sat 12:45-1:15-4:50-7:25-8:30 Sun 10:15-12:45-1:15-4:50-7:25-8:30 Mon 4:30-6:15-8:30 Tue 12:45-1:15-4:50-7:25-8:30 Wed-Thu 4:30-6:15-8:30
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri 3-9:30 Sat 10-4:20-10:30 Sun 10:30 Mon 3-9:30 Tue 4:20-10:30 Wed 3 Thu 3-9:30 Fri 3:30-6:45-10 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:30-6:45-10 Mon 3:30-6:45-10 Tue 12:15-3:30-6:45-10 Wed 9:30 Thu 3:30 Sun 10-4:20 Wed 3:30-6:45-10 Bears (G) Sat-Sun 10:45-1:40 Tue 1:40 Brick Mansions (PG) Fri-Wed 4:20-7:05-10:15 Thu 4:20
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Fri 7-10:10 Sat-Sun 9:30-1-7-10:10 Mon 7-10:10 Tue 1-7-10:10 Wed-Thu 7-10:10 Fri 3:25 Sat-Sun 4 Mon 3:25 Tue 4 Wed-Thu 3:25 Godzilla 3D (PG) Thu 7-10
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri 4:05-6:40-9:15 Sat-Sun 10:30-1:30-4:05-6:40-9:15 Mon 4:05-6:40-9:15 Tue 1:30-4:05-6:40-9:15 Wed-Thu 4:05-6:40-9:15
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return (G) Fri-Thu 4:15
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return 3D (G) Fri 6:40 Sat-Sun 11:15-2-6:40 Mon 6:40 Tue 2-6:40 Wed-Thu 6:40
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Thu 7:15-10:15
Neighbors (18A) Fri 4:30-7:30-9-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:30-7:30-9-10:15 Mon 4:30-7:30-9-10:15 Tue 1:20-4:30-7:30-9-10:15 Wed-Thu 4:30-7:30-9-10:15
The Other Woman (STC) Fri 3:45-6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-6:50-9:40 Mon 3:45-6:50-9:40 Tue 1-3:45-6:50-9:40 Wed 3:45-6:50-9:40 Thu 3:45-6:35-9:15
Rio 2 (G) Fri 3:15-6:30-9:15 Sat-Sun 9:45-12:30-3:15-6:30-9:15 Mon 3:15-6:30-9:15 Tue 12:30-3:15-6:30-9:15 Wed-Thu 3:15-6:30-9:15

Landmark Cinemas 24 Kanata & IMAX, 801 Kanata Ave.

The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 11:10-2:45-6-9:20 Mon-Thu 2:45-6-9:20
The Amazing Spider-Man 2 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 11:40-1:10-3:05-4:40-6:30-8:15-9:55 Mon 3:05-4:40-6:30-8:15-9:55 Tue 1:10-3:05-4:40-6:30-8:15-9:55 Wed 3:05 Thu 3:05-4:40-6:30-8:15-9:05-9:55 Wed 4:40-6:30-8:15-9:55
The Amazing Spider-Man 2: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:40-7:05-10:30 Mon-Wed 3:40-7:05-10:30 Thu 3:40
Bears (G) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:05-4:20-6:45 Mon 4:20-6:45 Tue 2:05-4:20-6:45 Wed-Thu 4:20-6:45
Brick Mansions (PG) Fri-Thu 9:50
Captain America: The Winter Soldier (PG) Fri-Sun 11:10-2:30-6-9:10 Mon-Thu 2:30-6-9:10 Fri 12:05-3:30-7:10-10:30 Sat 12:05-3:30-7-10:30 Sun 12:05-3:30-7:10-10:30 Mon-Wed 3:30-7:10-10:30 Thu 3:30
Divergent (PG) Fri-Wed 6:50-10
Draft Day (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:35-9:35 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:35-9:35
God's Not Dead (PG) Fri-Thu 6:50-9:40
Godzilla 3D (PG) Thu 7:30-10:30
Godzilla: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Thu 7-10 The Grand Budapest Hotel (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:55-6:20-9:05 Mon 3:55-6:20-9:05 Tue 1:15-3:55-6:20-9:05 Wed-Thu 3:55-6:20-9:05
Heaven Is for Real (PG) Fri-Sun 10:50-1:55-4:45-7:20-9:50 Mon 4:45-7:20-9:50 Tue 1:55-4:45-7:20-9:50 Wed-Thu 4:45-7:20-9:50 Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return (G) Fri-Thu 2:30
Legends of Oz: Dorothy's Return 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:45-5:10-7:50-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:50-10:20
The LEGO Movie (G) Fri-Sun 11:15-1:45-4:20 Mon 4:20 Tue 1:45-4:20 Wed-Thu 4:20
Million Dollar Arm (PG) Thu 7-10:15
Moms' Night Out (PG) Fri 11:45-2:20-4:50-7:25-10 Sat 11:45-4:50 Sun 11:45-2:20-4:50-7:25-10 Mon 4:50-7:25-10 Tue 2:20-4:50-7:25-10 Wed-Thu 4:50-7:25-10 Sat 2:20-7:25-10
Mr. Peabody & Sherman (G) Fri-Sun 11:25-2-4:35 Mon-Thu 4:35
Muppets Most Wanted (G) Fri-Sat 10:35-1:20-4:10 Sun 10:35 Mon 4:10 Tue 1:20-4:10 Wed-Thu 4:10 Sun 1:20-4:10
Neighbors (18A) Fri-Sun 12:10-1:20-2:45-4:10-5:25-7:05-8-9:25-9:55-10:35 Mon 2:45-4:10-5:25-7:05-8-9:25-9:55-10:35 Tue 1:20-2:45-4:10-5:25-7:05-8-9:25-9:55-10:35 Wed 2:45-4:10-5:25-7:05-8-9:25-9:55-10:35 Thu 2:45-4:10-5:25-7:45-8-9:25-10:20-10:35
Noah (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:15-6:25-9:35 Mon-Tue 6:25-9:35 Wed-Thu 3:15-6:25-9:35 Mon-Tue 3:15 The Other Woman (STC) Fri-Sun 10:40-12:35-1:25-3:40-4:30-6:45-7:35-9:30-10:15 Mon 3:40-4:30-6:45-7:35-9:30-10:15 Tue 1:25-3:40-4:30-6:45-7:35-9:30-10:15 Wed-Thu 3:40-4:30-6:45-7:35-9:30-10:15
The Quiet Ones (14A) Fri-Thu 7
Rio 2 (G) Fri-Sun 1-4-7 Mon 4-7 Tue 1-4-7 Wed-Thu 4-7 Rio 2 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11-1:55-4:45-7:35-10:25 Mon 4:45-7:35-10:25 Tue 1:55-4:45-7:35-10:25 Wed 4:45-7:35-10:25 Thu 3:40-6:25
Stage Fright (STC) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:25-7:50-10:30 Mon-Tue 2:45-5:25-7:50-10:30 Wed 2:45-5:25 Thu 2:45-5:25-7:50-10:30 Wed 7:50-10:30
Trailer Park Boys: Don't Legalize It (14A) Fri 11:25-2:10-4:40-7:15-9:40 Sat 4:40-7:15-9:40 Sun 11:25-2:10-4:40-7:15-9:40 Mon 4:40-7:15-9:40 Tue 2:10-4:40-7:15-9:40 Wed-Thu 4:40-7:15-9:40 Sat 11:25-2:10
Transcendence (PG) Fri-Thu 9

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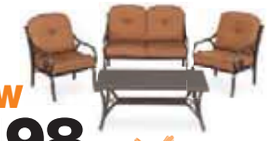
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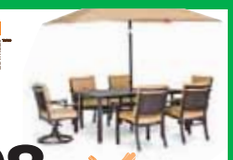
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Josh Hartnett stars as hired gun Ethan Chandler in Penny Dreadful. JONATHAN HESSION/SHOWTIME

Penny for your thoughts, Josh?

Penny Dreadful.
Actor mingles with Frankenstein and Dorian Gray in new horror series

A big reason film actors are drawn to TV is that it offers the sort of character-driven projects found less and less in a movie world tilted toward blockbusters.

That's partly why Josh Hartnett jumped into Penny Dreadful, an eight-part series debuting Sunday night on Showtime, Movie Central and The Movie Network. He plays a troubled American, a gun for hire who's ensnared by Victorian London's dark side in the horror drama-cum-psychological study.

Hartnett also appreciated the guarantee that the project would be marketed and presented to an audience, something he's become painfully aware isn't always the case with independent films.

"I've had worthy films not get a correct release, and have people come up to me later and say how much they enjoyed the film," seen after the fact online or on DVD, he said.

"It's gratifying to know that people go back and see stuff," he said. "But it would be more gratifying to be part of the cultural dialogue and (know) that it (a project) had an impact when it was released."

Hartnett's profile was reduced as some films suffered spotty or delayed releases. His starring role in Penny Dreadful has put him squarely back in the publicity spotlight and, he says, has led to some media confusion.

"The narrative that's been created over the last couple months is that I disappeared, and I was some hermit for the last few years and joined a cult or something," he said. "It's just crazy ... I was doing work I thought was worthy."

But he's fine with the renewed attention. "Being 35 and not 18, I'm less susceptible to the negative aspects" — given the satisfactions of working on Penny Dreadful.

The foremost attraction for Hartnett was working with creator-executive producer John Logan, a Tony Award-winner for Red and an Oscar-nominated screenwriter whose credits include Gladiator, Hugo and Skyfall, and executive producer Sam Mendes, the American Beauty Oscar-winning director.

The series they've wrought is an undeniable creepfest. Its title is drawn from the nickname for cheap, 19th-century publications that offered serialized tales of violence, death and general sensationalism.

Showtime's version finds renowned and rich explorer Sir Malcolm Murray (Timothy Dalton) and the mysterious Vanessa Ives (Eva Green) on the hunt for a monstrous killer. They recruit Harnett's sharpshooter, Ethan Chandler, a man with a shrouded past, and one Dr. Victor Frankenstein (Harry Treadaway).

The not-so-good doctor isn't the only familiar fictional character in Penny Dreadful: Dorian Gray, dropping by from Oscar Wilde's novel, is part of the macabre world.

"I didn't want to just write a Frankenstein story or a Dracula story or a Dorian Gray," Logan told a news conference. "That's why I created the characters that Eva and Josh played to be the centrepiece of the story."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I didn't want to just write a Frankenstein story or a Dracula story or a Dorian Gray."

Penny Dreadful creator and executive producer John Logan

Details

Penny Dreadful debuts Sunday, May 11 at 9 p.m. PT on Movie Central (Western Canada) and 10 p.m. ET on The Movie Network (Eastern Canada).

The laughter, the tears, the monkey?

Before there was Girls. Friends reflected a generation of confused young urbanites. Did it really end 10 years ago?

LISA WEIDENFELD
Metro World News

This week marks the 10-year anniversary of the final Friends episode airing. Remember 2004? President Bush, no iPhones, and Facebook was only available at certain universities. Few other shows reach the level of cultural dominance Friends achieved, but, like any show on the air for a decade, it had its highs and its lows. Here, in no particular order, are a few of the most memorable moments.

High: Monica and Chandler
While Ross and Rachel were set up in the pilot episode as the show's defining romance, the less dramatic but more comedic pairing of Monica (Courteney Cox) and Chandler (Matthew Perry) turned out to be one of the best ideas the writers had. Finicky Monica and sarcastic Chandler hooked up at Ross's wedding in London, then soon fell in love, providing plenty of comedic fodder as the rest of the Friends found out one by one.

Low: Ross owns a monkey
Remember when Ross (David Schwimmer) had a monkey? Why did Ross have a monkey? Look, we all enjoy a mealworms joke here and there, but really, having a pet monkey is just a little weird. The show itself even made fun of it in later years, having Ross remark, "Hey, remember when I had a monkey? Yeah, what was I thinking?" Indeed, Ross.

High: Setting Phoebe up with Paul Rudd
Phoebe (Lisa Kudrow) was always the odd one out. She doesn't live with anyone, she's not related to anyone and, well, she's a bit of a weirdo. But when Joey (Matt Leblanc) randomly sets her up with a stranger, the guy turns out to be the love of her life. And he's Paul Rudd, which is an added bonus. We're glad the show never followed through on Phoebe's occasional comments about how cute Joey is.

Low: Rachel and Joey try to date
The show couldn't resist pairing up its various Friends over the years (except for Phoebe — sorry, Phoebe) and this late-in-the-run pairing came across a bit like the writers selected two of the single Friends at random and threw them together. Rachel (Jennifer Aniston) and Joey briefly tried dating, only to quickly decide they were better as friends, which viewers could have told them.

High: Ten years of finding the comedy in the everyday, as sitcoms are supposed to do
PIVOT! PIVOT! Need we say more?

Low: Joey never has a serious relationship
To be fair, Joey was an unrepentant womanizer. But there were hints here and there that he wanted to date someone more seriously, and the show never set him up with someone long-term.

High: Having the Friends go through all the things you're supposed to
Sure, they may have spent the workday in a coffee shop and they lived in palatial apartments, but the group also confronted realistic issues over the run of the show, from the death of family members to working at crappy jobs before finding your dream career. One early episode showed the three Friends with better jobs going out to an expensive concert (uh, Hootie and the Blowfish — it was the '90s!), while the other three stayed home and felt resentful about it.

And one last highlight: Making you think that you and your friends could be this funny
Friends was a hangout show, and it derived many of its highlights from the gang gathered together, having fun.

Hard to believe, but the last episode of Friends aired a decade ago. CONTRIBUTED

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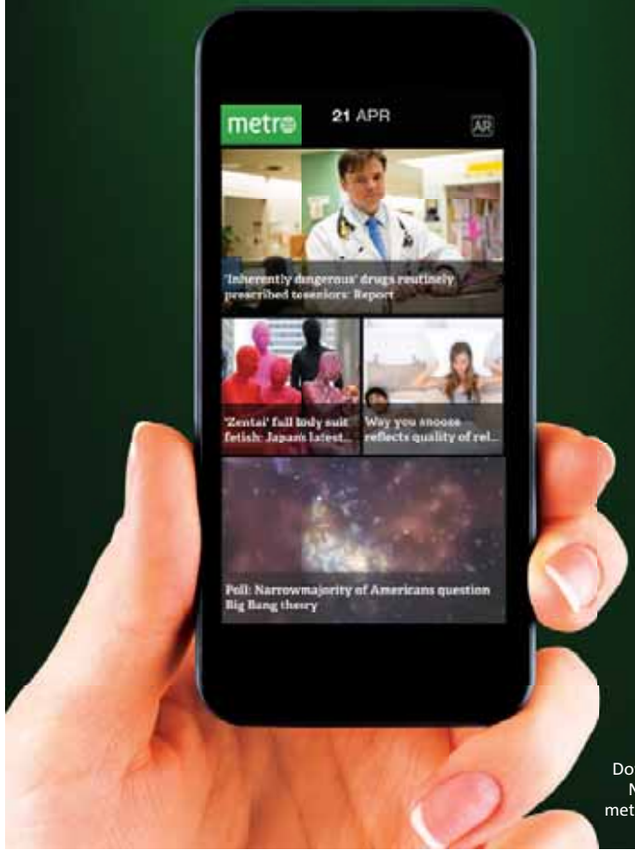
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3 songs for the weekend

Sound Check

ALAN CROSS

A couple of rockers, and a truly grim take on Avril's latest blunder that'll have you hailing Satan in no time.

Ghosts/ Big Wreck

Although the first single and title track of the fourth Big Wreck album came out a month ago, the video only surfaced last week. Ghosts will be out June 10.

All Justice No Peace/Biblical

Heavy psych-rock from Toronto. If you're in Toronto for Canadian Music Week, their Saturday night gig at the Mod Club is going to be pretty, pretty crowded. Their debut album is called Monsoon Season.

Hello Kitty/ Woods of Trees

You've probably heard about the backlash Avril Lavigne has been getting over her latest video. Black metal band Woods of Trees covers the song, taking a few, er, liberties with the lyrics. Fortunately, the video has subtitles.

See that symbol? It means you can scan this image with your Metro News app to listen to Alan's recommended songs this week.

Mind the App

Gabba gabba hey, get out of the way!

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
scene@metronews.ca

Record Run
iPhone/iPad
Free

You dodge, duck, and jump to the rhythms of your own music collection in this fun obstacle course game from the creators of Guitar Hero, Rock Band, and Dance Central.

Video game review

Name. The Child Of Light

For. Xbox Live/PSN/Wii U/PC

Rated. Everyone 10+

Beautiful watercolour illustrations come alive in this Montreal-made role-playing game about a little girl who must gather quirky companions against the darkness of a fairy tale land. The way people speak in prose, the way the sky feels alive, the way windmills keep secrets, all help to create a world that feels fresh and fun to explore. The battles play with time in an interesting way while the monsters are curious and intriguing. Beneath it all is the poignant, thoughtful theme of a girl dealing with her father marrying someone new. **KRIS ABEL**

SPECIAL INSERT ON MAY 12

Watch for your copy of **RIDE** in METRO on Monday, May 12.

metro RIDE
SPRING 2014
HONDA EDITION
The Odyssey: Safe, comfy
CIVIC-MINDED FIRM
A GOOD FIT FOR CANADA
Wheels Editor Norris McDonald on the Civic, leasing and the Alliston plants
FOCUS ON TECHNOLOGY
We review the Accord, the Fit and the CTX1300 motorcycle
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Willow Smith and Moises Arias INSTAGRAM

Cool mom Jada OK with Willow's bedroom photo

Willow Smith's mom Jada Pinkett-Smith has strong feelings about photos of her 13-year-old daughter in bed with an adult man: She's strongly cool with it. Pictures surfaced earlier this week of Willow Smith in bed with her friend, 20-year-old Moises Arias. It's not as bad as it sounds at first blush: Willow's fully clothed (though Arias is shirtless) and they don't appear to be touching. But we're still talking a kid in bed with a grown man, which was enough to make the Internet uncomfortable.

Willow's mom Jada, though, says the pic is fine. "Here's the deal: There was nothing sexual about that picture or that situation," the actress told TMZ. "You guys are projecting your trash onto it, and you're acting like covert pedophiles, and that's not cool."

Indeed, a look at Arias' website reveals that this pic is nothing special: He's got tons of shots of his friends, and pretty much never wears a shirt.

'People are going to get sick of me,' says J-Law

Jennifer Lawrence GETTY IMAGES

Jennifer Lawrence tries to ignore most of the stuff written about her, but she's not completely immune. "The first thing I'm doing after I leave this interview is Googling 'Jennifer Lawrence backlash,'" she tells Marie Claire. "Nobody can stay beloved forever. I never believed it, the whole time. I was like, 'Just wait. People are going to get sick of me.' My picture is everywhere, my interviews are everywhere. It's something I always tell myself: 'You need to calm the f— down. You don't want to constantly be a GIF.'"

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

GETTY IMAGES

Meeting Justin Bieber was superbad, Seth Rogen says

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

It's on: Seth Rogen has become one of the first celebrities to call Justin Bieber out on his crap.

The comedian says his Bieber-related distaste goes back to the early days of Bieber fever. Bieber and Rogen were both backstage at a German talk show when word came that the singer had requested to meet the comedian. "I was like, 'Sure, I'll meet him,'" Rogen told Howard Stern.

"So I went outside to meet him and he was acting like I asked to meet HIM! It was very nonchalant, 'Yo man. What's up?' and I was like, 'What the f—, I don't give a f— about (you), I don't want to meet you. Don't act all nonplussed to meet me. I didn't want to meet you. I was totally cool not meeting you ... But I was like, fine, I wouldn't have said anything, I was like, 'He's a bit of a motherf—er.'"

Yesterday, Bieber responded via Twitter, casting the incident in a somewhat different light: "Seth Rogan (sic) sorry I didnt (sic) bow down when I asked 2 meet u was probably a bit shy and didn't want to be over the top but still. love ur movies."

Aww. I might be inclined to believe that he was just shy, if I hadn't heard literally dozens of stories of him acting like a rude little punk.

Angelina Jolie GETTY IMAGES

Angelina never thought she'd find happily ever after

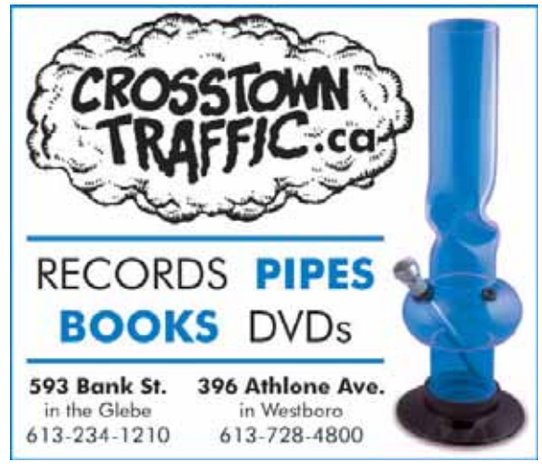
Angelina Jolie admits that her thriving home life with Brad Pitt and their six kids comes as something of a surprise to her. "I never thought I'd have children, I never thought I'd be in love, I never thought I'd meet the right person," she tells Elle magazine. "Having come from a broken home, you kind of accept that certain things feel like a fairy tale, and you just don't look for them." Maybe that explains some of Jolie's wilder behaviour in her 20s, actions she insists were "misinterpreted as (me) wanting to be rebellious," she says. "And in fact it wasn't a need to be destructive or rebellious. It's that need to find a full voice, to push open the walls around you. You want to be free. And as you start to feel that you are being corralled into a certain life, you kind of push against it. It may come out very strange, it may be interpreted wrong, but you're trying to find out who you are."

Twitter

@Sethrogen
It's shocking how many professional journalists ask to take selfies with me.

@SarahKSilverman
Ensure your email never gets opened by enlisting the subject line, "FAVOR!"

@DanaDelany
Updating my will. Any requests?



Liquid Assets

Gearing up for summer

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca
Facebook: therealwineguy

There's never a dull moment when you have dinner with an Aussie winemaker. When Neil McGuigan is at your table you can multiply the fun by at least 1,000. I met up with him earlier this week in Halifax at the Agricola Street Brasserie — the city's hottest new resto. The first time we shared a glass, it was on his home turf in New South Wales's beautiful Hunter Valley.

McGuigan's got a lot to be happy about. He makes the best-selling red in Australia and has been named Winemaker of the Year by the U.K.'s prestigious International Wine & Spirit Competition three times.

Here in Canada he's best known for championing the versatility of the white sémillon grape and creating bright, easy-drinking wines that pour well above their price point.

The 2012 McGuigan Black Label Shiraz ($10.99) is a mini fruit bomb with ripe berry flavours, smooth tannins and a juicy finish. It's got enough body to fight it out with grilled meats, yet is playful enough to wash down barbecued hamburgers and hotdogs. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

This Mother's Day, treat her to a sophisticated brunch. Annabel Langbein, who brings good food into today's fast-paced world, shows us a recipe from her cookbook The Free Range Cook that is sure to wow the woman whose cooking you grew up on.

Only the best for Mom: Twice Baked Whitebait Soufflés

THE FREE RANGE COOK
Annabel Langbein
gustotv.com

1. Preheat oven to 180 C. Generously butter six 1 cup ramekins and put in fridge to chill.

2. In a medium saucepan, melt the butter until sizzling but not browned. Stir in the flour and cook, stirring, for about 2 minutes until the mixture forms a smooth paste. Whisk in the milk, nutmeg, salt and pepper and lemon zest and bring back to a boil, stirring constantly, until the sauce thickens.

3. Add lemon juice and whisk until smooth. Remove from heat and beat in egg yolks one at a time. Taste for seasoning — it should taste highly seasoned. Fold through whitebait or smoked salmon and herbs.

4. Place egg whites in a clean, dry bowl and beat until they form soft peaks. Add one quarter of the egg whites to the whitebait mixture and stir until well mixed. Then fold the remaining egg whites gently through the mixture.

5. Fill the buttered ramekins to the top, then run your thumb around the inside edge of the dishes so the soufflés puff evenly. Set the ramekins in a deep roasting dish and pour boiling water around them until it comes about halfway up the sides of the dishes. This water bath will help the soufflés cook evenly. Bake until they are lightly puffed, browned and just set in the centre – about 15-20 minutes. (The soufflés can be cooked right through at this point if you prefer. Cook for about 20-25 minutes total.)

6. Remove soufflés from oven and the water bath and leave to cool. They can be covered and refrigerated for up to 2 days. When you are ready to serve them, preheat oven to 220 C. Pour 1 tbsp of cream over each soufflé. Place on a tray and cook until they are risen, crusty and golden — about 12 minutes from refrigerated. **WATCH THE ANNABEL LANGBEIN FREE RANGE COOK MONDAY TO THURSDAY AT 5:30 P.M. EST, STARTING APRIL 28 ON GUSTO TV, CANADA'S NEW FOOD & LIFESTYLE CHANNEL. VISIT GUSTOTV.COM FOR FULL PROGRAM LINE-UP AND MORE GREAT RECIPE IDEAS.**

Ingredients

- 50 g butter, plus extra to butter ramekins or cups
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 3/4 cups milk
- pinch of ground nutmeg
- 1 tsp salt
- generous shake of white pepper
- finely grated zest of 1 lemon
- 4 tbsp lemon juice
- 5 egg yolks
- 1 cup whitebait or 1 cup finely chopped smoked salmon
- 2 tbsp finely chopped soft herbs such as basil
- 5 egg whites

To finish

- 6 tbsp cream

This recipe serves six. ANNABEL LANGBEIN

Sweet! Honey Vanilla Panna Cotta

This recipe serves six to eight. ANNABEL LANGBEIN

1. Place 1 cup of the cream in a saucepan with the vanilla pod, honey and sugar and heat, stirring, until the sugar has fully dissolved. Simmer for 1 minute.

2. Remove pot from heat and lift out the vanilla pod. Split pod open and scrape out seeds. Add seeds back into the cream mix and whisk to combine (rinse leftover pod and store it in sugar container — it will add nice flavour to the sugar).

3. Place the cold water in a small bowl and sprinkle the gelatin over the top, stirring until it is fully absorbed. Add the soaked gelatin to the hot cream, stirring until it is fully dissolved. You will know when it is dissolved because there will be no visible granules.

4. Cool the mixture for 15-20 minutes, stirring often (it needs to be cool before the buttermilk is added or it will split). Lightly whip the remaining cup of cream and stir it into the cooled mixture, then whisk in the buttermilk until the mixture is smooth.

5. Divide the mixture between 6-8 serving glasses. Cover and refrigerate until set. This should take about 3-4 hours or up to 24 hours. To serve, divide Sunshine Fruit Topping over the top of the set panna cottas. Serve chilled.

6. Topping: Wash, peel and finely dice 3 peaches. Mix with pulp of 4 passionfruit and 1 tbsp liquid honey.

ANNABEL LANGBEIN, GUSTOTV.COM

Ingredients

- 2 cups cream, divided in half
- 1 vanilla pod, split length wise, or 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 4 tbsp cold water
- 4 tsp unflavoured gelatin
- 2 cups buttermilk

To serve

- Sunshine Fruit Topping

Scan the below image with your Metro News app to view a gallery of opening-round action from the Players Championship.

NASL

Hurting Fury to kick off against struggling Tampa

Ottawa Fury FC host the Tampa Bay Rowdies this Saturday in an NASL contest between two teams desperate for a win.

Tampa Bay boasts the league's best attacking duo with Brian Shriver and NASL MVP Georgi Hristov; however, the Rowdies struggle defensively and have had inconsistent goalkeeping from former MLS stand-out Matt Pickens.

The Fury look to turn things around at home after a tough loss in Atlanta last weekend. The Fury's injury list continues to grow as Nicki Paterson, Pierre-Rudolph Mayard, Oliver, Richie Ryan and Maykon are questionable. METRO

Players championship

Kaymer out in front

Martin Kaymer shot 9-under 63 on at the Players Championship on Thursday, giving him a two-shot lead over Russell Henley after the first round. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Martin Kaymer had a two-shot lead after Thursday's win. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Erik Haula of the Minnesota Wild celebrates scoring against the Chicago Blackhawks during the third period in Game 3 of their second-round series on Wednesday night. HANNAH FOSLIEN/GETTY IMAGES

Wild Finns keep Blackhawks pinned

NHL playoffs. But Minnesota expects a more aggressive Chicago club in Game 4

Erik Haula started the rush from the circle in the Minnesota zone early in the third period of a then-scoreless Game 3, leaning forward as he reached the blue-line to thread a cross-ice pass to Matt Moulson.

Moulson moved the puck forward to Justin Fontaine, who deftly sent a saucer-like delivery through two Chicago defencemen. Having raced past speedster Patrick Kane, Haula arrived at the crease in perfect timing for the tap-in past goalie Corey Crawford.

Finally on the board, the Wild pulled away for a 4-0 victory over the Blackhawks that night to cut their deficit in the Western Conference semifinal series to 2-1. Game 4 is Friday night, and the Wild have been bracing for more aggression from a Blackhawks team that's as skilled and potent with the puck as any in the NHL.

"I think that's when they're at their best, when they're going at you, trying to attack, trying to make plays every single time," Wild defenceman Ryan Suter said.

The Wild have some made-in-Finland remedies for that sure-to-be-fired-up Blackhawks offence.

The centres on their first three lines, Mikko Koivu, Mikael Granlund and Haula, have the kind of defensive-minded games that make them a good fit in their system. The rookie Haula's speed in particular has been a big boost since his emergence down the stretch of the regular season.

"The one thing that's consistent for every Finn that I've ever worked with is pride," coach Mike Yeo said, adding: "Part of that winning attitude is every play they take pride in making it happen, whether it's a blocked shot or a faceoff or shutting somebody down or whatever they can to help their team win."

All three of these Finns were drafted and developed by the Wild, but Koivu and Granlund were top-10 picks. Haula, who played at the University of Minnesota, was the seventh-round overachiever who had three stints this season in the AHL before taking advantage of Granlund's injury at the end of March to prove to the Wild he could provide quality ice time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRES

As expected, Texans take DE Clowney

No. 1 overall draft pick Jadeveon Clowney poses with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell on Thursday in New York. ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

No surprise: Clowney is the Texans' man.

After two extra weeks of intrigue, Houston opened the NFL draft Thursday night by taking South Carolina defensive end Jadeveon Clowney. Rarely does a team not reveal the top overall choice until it is announced, and there was wide speculation the Texans had soured on Clowney, whose work ethic has been questioned.

Obviously, the Texans were convinced that a player considered a budding NFL star even when he was a freshman was the right guy for them.

After commissioner Roger Goodell announced the pick, fans who filled Radio City Music Hall in New York City to capacity applauded Clowney as he held up his index finger, his eyes moist, a relieved look on his face. Just like the 30 prospects on hand, the fans were extra eager to see who would wind up where after the draft was pushed back from late April because the theatre was unavailable.

Clowney, 21, brings size, speed and power to a lineup that already has 2012 NFL Defensive Player of the Year J.J. Watt. His diligence had been questioned after he slipped from 13 sacks to just three in 2013. Critics said he was protecting himself from injury in his junior year before declaring early for the draft.

Clowney is the first defensive player taken first overall since Houston selected another end, Mario Williams, in 2006. Williams now is with Buffalo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You may think you know what motivates someone but the planets warn you have it wrong, and that could be dangerous. In your personal life and at work you are advised not to jump to conclusions today — or any day.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You may believe that if you don't act soon your big chance will pass but it isn't true. The sense of urgency you feel is an illusion and what happens over the next three days will prove it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You know there is a flaw in your plans but you are tempted to ignore it. If you push ahead regardless, you are sure to regret it. Work out where it is you have gone wrong first.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
What you hear today may annoy you but is it worth getting worked up about? If you allow yourself to get angry over what others say, they will have succeeded in their aim.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Make sure you do not commit yourself to anything you cannot back out of later. Most times your instincts can be trusted but this may be the one time when they let you down.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Don't change anything for the sake of it today because you will only have to change it back again later. It might be better to stick with what you know about, even if it is not what you want. Wait and see what the weekend brings.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You should expect some deception over the next 24 hours, even from people you think you can trust. Don't hold grudges against people who let you down. It happens.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It does not matter how convinced you may be that you are in the right and others are in the wrong. You won't get far if you insist they come round to your way of thinking. Look for a compromise solution.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will be caught off by something you did not expect today. You have taken certain things for granted when you had no reason to do so. Admit you made a mistake and do what you can to put it right.

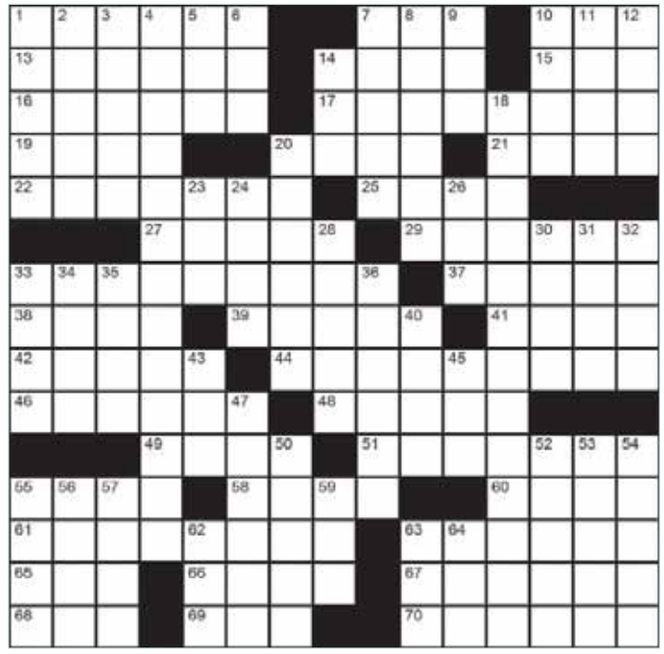
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Do what you can to bring people together today but if it proves too tough a task just back off and let them fight it out. Do not get involved on a personal level yourself. If you choose sides you'll be the loser.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Make sure you have all the facts because it is the only way you can be certain you are not being deceived. The planets warn that unscrupulous people won't hesitate to cheat you.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Current cosmic activity endows you with self-confidence but the downside is you might start thinking you cannot fail. Apply common sense to everything you do today. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

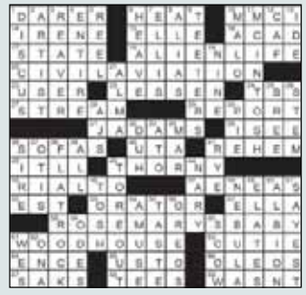
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. 1982 Clash hit: "Rock the __"
7. Weight's stat. pal
10. Inclined
13. Bind
14. Actress Rooney
15. Mai __ (Cocktail)
16. __ card
17. Lynn __ ("Chopped Canada" celebrity chef)
19. Ms. Spelling
20. See #8-Down
21. Church part
22. '60s bossa nova hit: "The Girl from __"
25. Barber's target
27. CBC chef, Stefano __
29. Shania Twain's "From This __ On"
33. _.__. __ (Toronto-born actor who plays Dr. Tom Reycraft on CTV's "Saving Hope")
37. More dry
38. Winged
39. "I'm going __ __." ...stated the afternoon social attendee
41. Respiratory rattle
42. Inclines
44. Ontario village; or, city in England
46. Computer keyboard users
48. Formula
49. Botanist Mr. Gray's
51. Monarch's trappings
55. "Highway to Hell" group
58. Competes
60. Divide
61. Canadian actress Rachel Blanchard played Cher Horowitz on the TV version of what 1995 movie?
63. Bring along: 2 wds.
65. "El __" (1961)
66. Yeses: French
67. "Undone - The Sweater Song" band
68. Fasten
69. Windows-using PCs pre-Vistas
70. Gawking, say

Down
1. Mojave plants
2. _ __ in the bucket
3. "__-__: Princess of Power" ('80s cartoon series)
4. May 1969: John Lennon and Yoko Ono's happening at Montreal's Queen Elizabeth Hotel: 3 wds.
5. Jackie's '68 groom
6. __ up (Riled)
7. Abrasive
8. Neil Young's ex-Hollies bandmate (First name here, surname at #20-Across)
9. Tweety Bird's 'spotted'
10. Above
11. Golfer's norms
12. Surfer's interest
14. Beastie Boys member
18. Straight-from-the-source fresh produce outlet: 2 wds.
20. Canada, for one
23. 'Ether' suffix (Airy/delicate)
24. Jazz musician Mr. Jackson
26. Apple devices platform
28. Poker stakes
30. 'E' in QED
31. Ms. Carter
32. Birch __
33. Go-__ (Fun vehicle)
34. Ceramics material
35. Use a tent
36. Seamstresses
40. Cottage owner's plot
43. 2014 HS grads
45. Summer mo.
47. Routinely set money aside: 2 wds.
50. Yes yeses ...in Spanish: 2 wds.
52. Broadcaster Ms. Gibbons
53. Lay to rest
54. Love
55. Invoice abbr.
56. Gladiator's 152
57. Guy
59. 'Lion' suffix
62. Deli serving
63. Ex-airline
64. Old Rome bronze money

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

3				5				9
	9				8	3	4	
	6		9	1				
	4					6		
6		5				4		3
		2					8	
				2	6		7	
	7	8	3				1	
1				4				5

Yesterday's Sudoku

5	9	6	3	8	1	4	2	7
2	7	1	4	5	6	8	9	3
4	3	8	9	7	2	1	6	5
1	8	5	6	3	9	7	4	2
6	4	9	5	2	7	3	1	8
3	2	7	1	4	8	9	5	6
9	5	2	7	1	3	6	8	4
7	6	4	8	9	5	2	3	1
8	1	3	2	6	4	5	7	9

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